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# HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF

## CHESTER, ON DELAWARE,

*Pennsylvania Pa.*

BY HENRY GRAHAM ASHMEAD.

WITH

MAPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS.

ALSO,

A FULL ACCOUNT OF THE WORK OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE PENN  
BI-CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION OF CHESTER; NAMES OF MEMBERS OF SAME  
AND OF SUB-COMMITTEES; LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO THE FUND;  
COMMEMORATIVE EXERCISES OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, CHESTER, FIRST  
DAY, 10TH MONTH 22D, 1882;  
BI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, OCT. 23D, 1882;  
UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL STONE, NOV. 9TH, 1882,  
AND A LIST OF INDUSTRIES,

BY WILLIAM SMALER JOHNSON.

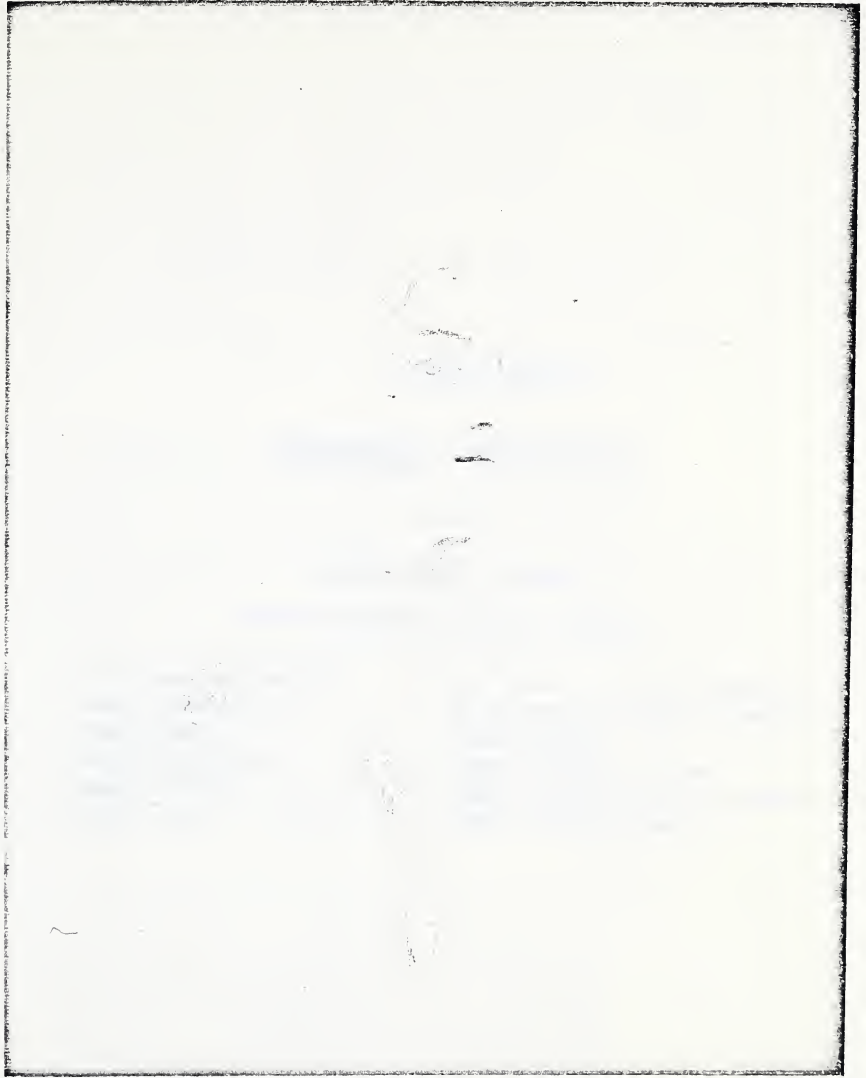
PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

CHESTER, PA.  
PRINTED AT THE REPUBLICAN STEAM PRINTING HOUSE  
1883.





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## HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

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WARD R. BLISS, UPLAND.



## PREFACE.

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The Historical Committee of the Penn Bi-Centennial Association of Chester, in the discharge of the duties confided to them, thought it but fitting that the people should have some enduring memorial of the celebration in our city of the Two Hundredth anniversary of the landing of William Penn, the Founder of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania—a memorial which could pass from father to son and keep alive, to some extent at least, the interest which the event had aroused and the lessons it had taught.

That memorial has taken the form of the present book. Beginning with small things it has grown to its present proportions—grown so that the Committee is actually giving to its subscribers a work of nearly double the size and quadruple the value of that at first contemplated.

In the hurry of preparation—for it must be borne in mind that all these materials have been gathered and put into their present form within three months, and by those actively engaged in the daily duties of life and business, and who also were deeply interested in the work of the Bi-Centennial Committee—it has been impossible to avoid some errors of construction and typography which would not have occurred had the book had, what it has been impossible to give it, a thorough and careful revision.

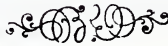
To John M. Broomall, Wm. H. Egle, LL. D., Daniel B. Thomson, William Ward, William B. Broomall, David M. Johnson, John B. Hinkson, Henry B. Edwards, Edmund Pennell, George M. Booth and others, are due thanks for information given. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania and individual members have also kindly given assistance, and the Society has increased the obligation by



permitting the use of the two original letters of William Penn. which appear in *fac simile* in this book, one of which has been but lately recovered and not before published in this form.

Smith's Atlas of Delaware County, Flavill's Map of Chester, with original deeds and surveys, have been the authorities for two of the maps while the third is almost a *fac simile* copy of a rough draft belonging to William B. Broomall, Esq., dated about 1765.

We are also indebted to the Evening News Publishing Company for the use of several plates kindly loaned by them.







## THE MAPS.

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The first map represents the older or Historical part of the city of Chester. The heavy black lines are the boundaries of old grants and patents of the Swedish Government and the Proprietary. The lighter black lines define the course of the old roads. The dotted lines show the present course of Chester creek and the water front and the streets of the modern city. The notable historic spots are as follows:

- A*—Landing place of William Penn on Front street, fifty feet east of the east line of Penn street. The spot is now marked by the Memorial Stone presented to the city by members of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Penn Club.
- B*—Old Well, Essex House.
- C*—Site of Essex House.
- D*—Site of Boar's Head Inn.
- E*—Site of the Sandeland Double House, in which the First Assembly convened. Between this and the old Prison stood the first Friends Meeting House, built 1693.
- F*—Site of Work House, 1724.
- G*—Site of Prison, 1724.
- H*—Site of David Lloyd's House, afterwards known as the Porter Mansion, built 1721.
- I*—Site of Market House, Market Square.
- K*—Site of old House of Defence.
- XXX—Jasper Yeates' Granary.
- 

## BUILDINGS STILL STANDING.

- I—Prothonotary's Office.
- II—Court House, 1724.
- III—Richard Barry's Tavern, 1735, now Columbia House.
- IV—Pennsylvania Arms, now Washington Hotel, built 1747.
- V—Hope Anchor Inn. David Cowpland.
- VI—Morgan (Dr. Terrill) House.
- VII—David Cowpland House, now Stacey House.
- VIII—James Sandeland's prior to 1700, now Lafayette House.
- IX—Cobourn (Flickwir) House.



- X—Old Log House.  
 XI—Blue Ball Inn. Francis Richardson. 1765.  
 XII—Francis Richardson, 1760, now Steamboat Hotel.  
 XIII—Thomas Barber's House.  
 XIV—Logan House. Jasper Yeates. 1700.  
 XV—Dick House. Robert Barber. 1700.  
 XVI—David Lloyd's first House prior to 1703.  
 XVII—Francis Richardson. 1765.  
 XVIII—Ashbridge House. 1725.  
 XIX—The Anderson Mansion. 1803.  
 XX—Graham House. Built by John Hoskins, 1688. Oldest house in Chester.  
 XXI—Henry Hale Graham's Office.  
 XXII—Old Prison. 1695.  
 XXIII—Old Court House. 1685.  
 XXIV—Pennsylvania Arms. 1720, now City Hotel.  
 XXV—Jacob Howell's House.  
 XXVI—Isaac Eyre's House.  
 XXVII—Johnson Tavern.  
 XXVIII—Jonas Sandelands. 1723.  
 XXIX—Black Bear Inn. Early part of last century.  
 XXXI—Friends' Meeting House. 1736.

The second map is also historical, giving the lines of old grants and patents and name of grantee, with dates; also old names of streams and roads. The scale, however, is so reduced as to cover the entire ground now occupied by the city of Chester and adjacent boroughs.

The third map is almost a *fac simile* copy on a greatly reduced scale, of a rough draft in possession of W. B. Broomall, Esq., of Chester. It must date about 1765, and historically is very interesting.





Ep. Harman,

with my Love, This is to  
desire thee to dispatch away  
a messenger upon receipt  
herof, with the inclosed  
letters to if severall persons  
& places they are directed  
to, y<sup>e</sup> so they may be at  
Newcastle at y<sup>e</sup> Court of 2<sup>d</sup> of  
June - in w<sup>ch</sup> thou wilt oblige

upland 29. June: Thy Loving  
1682. W<sup>m</sup> Penn

Salute my Lonly  
wife & kind Neigh-  
bours. I will pay y<sup>e</sup> messenger  
I will pay y<sup>e</sup> messenger  
W<sup>m</sup> Penn



Will: Samuel Francis White  
Geo. Hayward, Robert Starr  
John Briggs &

That we do desire you to meet  
me at Newcastle next Thursday  
[to call] bring y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> of November  
where I shall hold a Generall  
Court for the settlement of  
the Jurisdiction of those <sup>& your</sup> parts  
& in so doing you will oblige

Upland 29<sup>th</sup> Oct.  
1682. your loving  
Friend

*J. M. Penn*

If there be any persons of note  
other w<sup>ch</sup> desire to come, they  
may freely do it, & this, may  
signify. *J. M.*



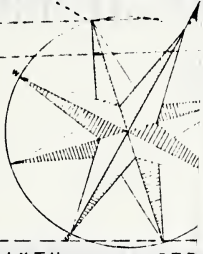
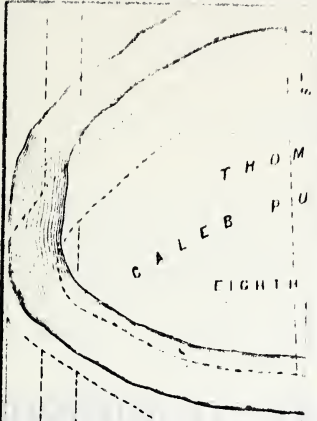


## ERRATA.

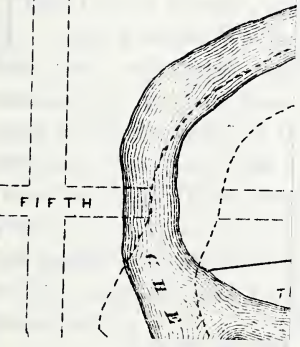
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- Page 8, line 23. Fort Cassimere is located near Wilmington—should be New Castle
- “ 9, “ 31, Hard-Knobbing Peter should be Hard-Kopping Peet.
- “ 19, “ 34, for Proud's History of Penna., read Clarkson's Life of Penn.
- “ 27, “ 37, for Old Mixon read Oldmixon.
- “ 31, “ 23, for Col. Custer, of 3d Va. Infantry, read Col. Cropper, 9th Va. Infantry.
- “ 38, “ 26, for Northeasterly direction read Southeasterly.
- “ 39, “ 7, for ten bushels read ten barrels.
- “ 44, “ 25, for Abgaddon Mills read Algodon Mills.
- “ 45, “ 36, for “to the coming of the first settlers of their names will be almost coeval which was of Penn himself,” read “first settlers of their name which was almost coeval with that of Penn himself.”
- “ 48, “ 3, date 1665, read 1695.
- “ 52, “ 15, for date “1874” read 1724; also line 23, for “William Beatty” read Frank Beatty.
- “ 54, “ 28, the date “1819” should be October, 1821. Dr. Egle, the Historian, informs me that William Wilson lived and died in the Hummels-town cave, in the Swatara mountains, Dauphin county, at the time mentioned above.
- “ 70, for Zedemiah Wyatt read Zedekiah Wyatt.
- “ 78, “ 15, for “Charles Jackson,” read Charles Thomson.
- “ 83, “ 13, 14, 14, for Aubury Bevan read Aubrey Bevan.
- “ 86, “ 16, for June 1, 1871, read June 1, 1870.
- “ 97, “ 18, it is stated that Jane Mather, after the death of her first husband, Dr. Paul Jackson, the following year married Dr. David Jackson, and on page 193, line 12, it is said that Jane married the latter three years after her first husband's death. The latter statement is correct. Her first husband died in 1767, and her second marriage took place in 1770.
- “ 100, “ 27, for date “1686” read 1689.
- “ 106, “ 16, for Northeast of Second and Market streets, read Northeast corner of Second and Market streets
- “ 144, “ 4, “the present building, as well as the house in which Mrs. Gray still resides,” should read “the present building in which Mrs. Gray still resides.”
- “ 145, “ 35, for in April, 1798, read 1789, and in line 38, for “it was in this year,” read “it was in the year 1798.
- “ 181, “ 12, for “Joseph Yeates,” read “Jasper Yeates.”
- “ 198, “ 29, for “1776” read 1876.
- “ 212, “ 15, for “composed of honorably discharged soldiers of the United States Army,” read “composed of honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the United States Army and Navy during the War of the Rebellion.”
- “ 221, “ 3, for “free public institutions,” read “free public instruction.”

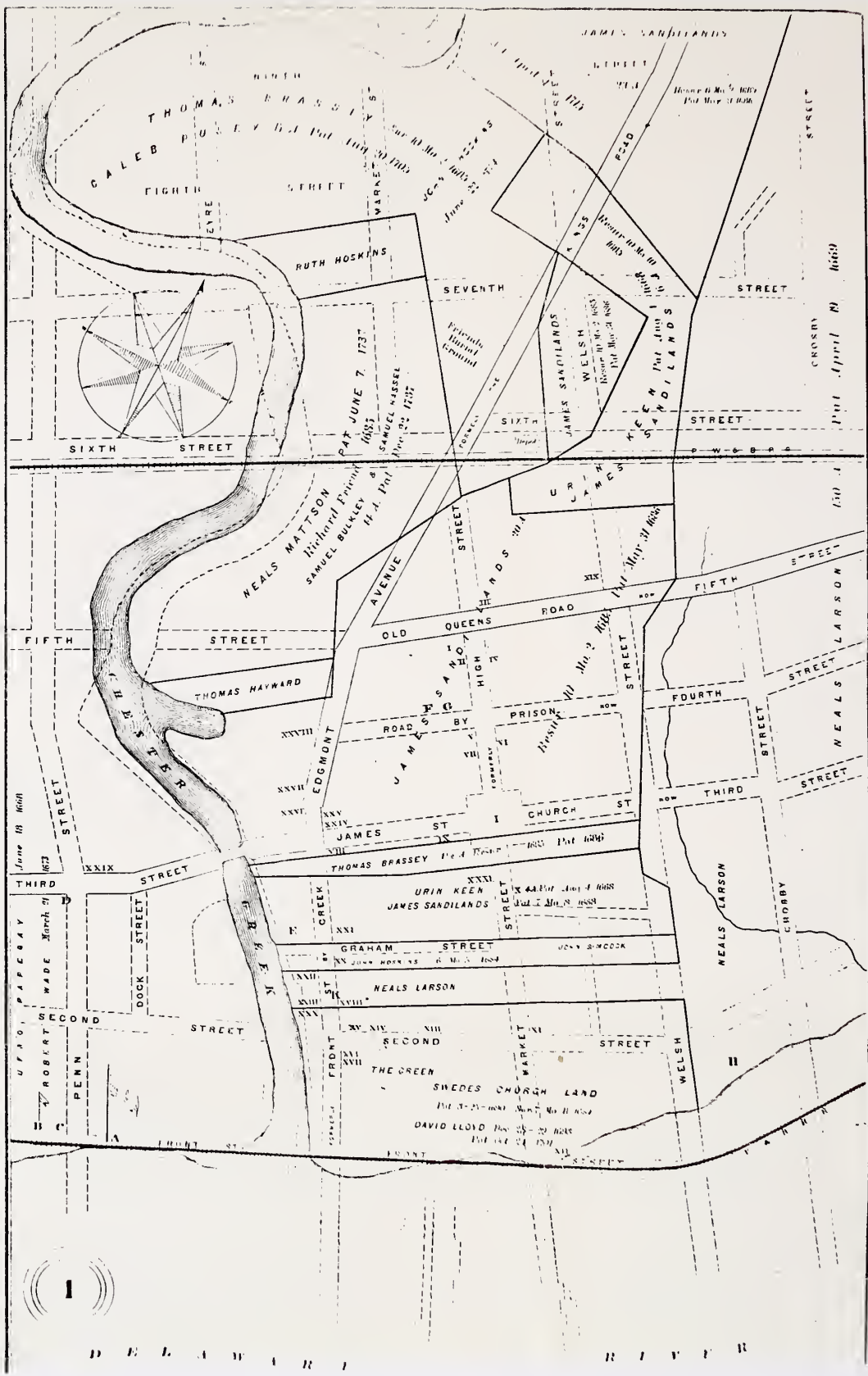




SIXTH STR







THOMAS BRASSELEY  
CALEB PUSEY  
EIGHTH STREET  
NINTH STREET



RUTH HOSKINS  
SEVENTH STREET  
PAT JUNE 7 1737  
SAMUEL NISSEL  
JAMES SANDILANDS  
WELSH  
SIXTH STREET

NEALS MATTSON  
SAMUEL BULKLEY  
FIFTH STREET  
THOMAS HAYWARD

EDMONT  
ROAD  
JAMES ST  
THOMAS BRASSELEY  
URIN KEEN  
JAMES SANDILANDS  
GRAHAM STREET  
NEALS LARSON  
THE GREEN  
SWEDS CHURCH LEAD  
DAVID LLOYD

FIFTH STREET  
THIRD STREET  
SECOND STREET  
FRONT STREET  
DOCK STREET  
CROSBY STREET  
NEALS LARSON  
WELSH  
MARKET STREET  
FAN H R

April 19 1869

I

D E L A W A R I R I V E R



# HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CHESTER,

1644--1682.

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## *CHESTER BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF W. M. PENN.*

**T**HE City of Chester, located on the West bank of the Delaware river, is about four miles to the northward of the Delaware State line, and about eighteen miles below Philadelphia, when measured by the river from Market street wharf in one city, to the wharf of the like name in the other; while by the Philadelphia and Baltimore Post-road, from Front and Market streets, Philadelphia, where the Court House formerly stood, to the old Court House on Market street, in our city, the distance is fifteen miles. The stone, thus marked, is still to be seen against the foundation walls of the building, near the door at the foot of the staircase leading to the Mayor's office.

It is our boast that the first permanent colonization of Europeans in Pennsylvania was made in Delaware county, and certainly the first settlement, of which we have any authentic record, was at Tinicum Island, about four miles above the present City of Chester. The claim of Monroe county, that long before the arrival of Governor Printz and the Swedes on the Delaware, the Dutch had made a permanent lodgement at Minisink, and had built a road extending from Esopus—founded, as we know, on the Hudson, in 1616—to the Delaware, communicating with mines near the Blue Mountains, and with numerous Dutch settlements along the flats above the Kit-





tatinny, is not wanting in evidence to sustain the assertion. But, be that as it may, it is not germane to my purpose to discuss the early settlement on the Delaware, but shall limit myself to the City of Chester proper, and a few of the surrounding localities. The recent exhaustive historical researches into the records of the early colonists in this vicinity by Prof. Gregory B. Keen, furnishes us with much light on the early days of Upland, while it was a Swedish province, and I have freely drawn upon his labor.

In 1644, the present site of Chester, East of the creek of that name, was a tobacco plantation, occupied by farm servants in the employment of the Swedish company. About that time many of the colonists began to seek grants of the broad acres on the main lands, and the ground between Ridley and Chester creeks was selected by Joran Keen, and to him the Swedish government granted a patent for a tract of land one and a half miles inland, following the right bank of Chester creek above its mouth, and reaching along the Delaware eastward as far as Ridley creek. The plot at its north-western limit at the present "Crozer Theological Seminary," was a half mile in breadth, and a diagonal line ran thence eastwardly to Ridley creek. Joran Keen, or Kyn, (as his name was written by the Swedes and also from his peculiar complexion, known as "snohuitt" or "snow white") was one of the earliest European residents upon the Delaware river within the boundaries of the present State of Pennsylvania, and for more than a quarter of a century, was the chief proprietor of lands at Upland, afterwards Chester. He was born in Sweden about 1620, and came to America, in company with Governor Printz, in the ship "Fama," which arrived at New Castle, February 15th, 1643, at "2 o'clock in the afternoon," of that day. The new Governor removed to the more commanding port of Tutaeenungh, or Tinicum, where he built a fort, provided it with considerable armament, which he named Nya Gortheborg, and "also caused to be built a mansion house and other conveniences," which was called by the proprietor Printzhoff." Here resided Joran Keen, a soldier whose duty was to attend daily upon the governor and travel with that dignitary wherever he might go, as one of his Excellency's body guard. As before stated, Keen received the grant of a royal tract of ground, and, it is believed, that when Colonel Printz left the colony to return



to Sweden, Keen resigned his military position and gave his undivided attention to agriculture.

The land on the West bank of Chester creek, extending along the river as far as Marcus Hook, Queen Christina, of Sweden, granted to Captain John Ammundson Besk, "his wife and heirs," by patent, dated August 20, 1653, in consideration of faithful services he had rendered to the State. Besk, who is believed to have been a man of large means, never entered into possession of this vast tract of ground, and it seems to have been held and claimed by Armigart Papegoya, the daughter of the first Swedish Governor, Printz. In a letter from the Dutch Vice Director, Beekman, under date of September 14, 1662, he writes: "I inquired into the situation of a certain lot of land on the Southwest side of Upland Kill, and was informed by the Swedish Commissaries and other ancient inhabitants of said nation, that the aforesaid is called Printz's village, which has always been in possession during 16 years of the Swedish Governor, John Printz, and his daughter who owns it."

Many of the early Swedish settlers were not of a class to be desired as founders of a new empire, for the recent investigation of Professor Odhner, of the University of Lund, Sweden, among the archives of that nation, discloses the fact that quite a number of criminals and forest-destroying Finns were transported to the Delaware river settlements to rid the mother country of their presence. The Finns just mentioned, had, in violation of the mandates of the royal government, set fire to the forests in Varmland and Dal, that they might free the ground of trees to sow grain in the ashes, and for this act they were banished to the New World. Professor Odhner directly asserts that, in the Province of Skaraborg, a trooper, who was condemned to death for having broken into the monastery gardens at Varnhem, was permitted to make his selection between being hanged or embarking for New Sweden, and as late as 1653 a criminal, who had been convicted of killing an elk on the island D'Auland, was sentenced to transportation hither.

I have no doubt many of these felons safely landed, notwithstanding the assertion of Campanius that "when the European inhabitants (along the Delaware) perceived it, they would not suffer them to set foot on shore, but they were all obliged to return, so



that a great many of them perished on the voyage." Nor is it strictly correct, that conveying convicts here "was after this forbidden under a penalty \* \* \* lest Almighty God should let His vengeance fall on the ships and goods, and the virtuous people that were on board." There can be no question that the better class of Swedes made earnest efforts to prevent the importation of these obnoxious emigrants, but at the same time it should not be overlooked that the inhuman criminal code of every European nation, at that period, punished severely the encroachments of the people on the exclusive privileges of the wealthy, as the governing class looked upon the dawning spirit of liberty among the masses to be, and hence many of those who were transported, in our day would have been regarded as innocent of any real crime against morals or the State. Indeed, Lieutenant-Colonel Johan Printz, the first Governor of the colony, so far as the permanent settlement of Pennsylvania was concerned, had himself been dismissed the service, because of his dishonorable capitulation of the fortress of Chemnitz during the war between Sweden and Germany. Whatever had been his conduct as a soldier in Europe, his administration of affairs in this country was that of a wise and able executive.

It is, doubtless, due to this criminal element among the early residents of Upland—including at that time the whole settled part of Pennsylvania—that we find in that remote period of our history, intemperance as a distinguishing infirmity, and, as I shall hereafter show, a vice in which the clergyman and the schoolmaster of that day indulged to a noticeable degree.

The houses of the early Swedish settlers were built of logs, and the doors were so low that a person of ordinary stature was compelled to stoop in entering or leaving the buildings, while the apartments within had low ceilings, hardly over six feet in the clear, and the roughly hewed joists supporting the attic, wherein a child could hardly stand upright, were devoid of laths and plaster. The windows were small, mere frames set in the logs, and although the families who indulged in more costly luxuries than their neighbors had the openings glazed with isinglass, in general only a rough board slide shut out the cold on extreme winter days, and was usually closed during the night. The chimneys with huge fire-places, were occasionally built of gray sandstone, in the corners of the



rooms, but oftener the stacks were erected of turf on the outside of the houses and in the middle of the gables. In many of the early dwellings, small rooms just large enough to spread a bed were partitioned off from the main lower apartments, and the floors were laid in stone, or, oftener, simply clay, which by constant use became very hard.

The usual dress of the Swedish people on the Delaware, of those primitive days, was strongly but rudely fashioned of skins of animals, and their heads were covered with caps of the same material, the hair clinging to the hide. Their shoes, very similar in form to the Indian moccasins, were made from the skins of animals slain in the chase. The women were also compelled to employ the same material in making their jackets and petticoats, and the beds were covered with deer, wolf and bear skins. Many of the heads of families had the apparel they had worn at home in Europe safely packed away, which, on occasions of public festivals, were ceremoniously brought forth and donned by the owner, to the admiration of the young people born in the colony. Unfortunately the Swedes, both men and women, were addicted to an over indulgence in intoxicating liquors, and frequent mention is made of the trouble this propensity occasioned them in trivial suits and complaints before the Courts of that day.

Among the most prominent of the early Swedish settlers was Dominie Laurence Lock—his name appears in several ways on the old records—who comported himself with such freedom of behavior in his ministerial office that even, although nearly two centuries have elapsed since his death, the scandal which his deeds occasioned has descended to the present time. He is stated by Mr. Clay, in his *Annals*—most excellent authority on all matters appertaining to the Swedish Church on the Delaware—to have come to this country during the time of Governor Printz; that he had preached at Tincum and Christiana, and was for many years “the only clergyman the Swedes had.” In the year 1661, the Dominie’s wife, yielding to the dulcet pleading and more youthful attraction of one Jacob Young—or as it was sometimes written, Jacob Jough—fled with the latter to the dwelling of Andries Hendricssen, a Finn, of notoriously bad character in Upland. The clergyman, when he discovered that his wife had eloped and had gone to Hen-





driessen's house, followed them thither, but too late to overtake the runaways. The Dominie, finding that the door to one of the rooms was closed, broke it open with an axe, and with the same implement unlocked a trunk belonging to Jacob Young, which he found in the apartment. The trunk contained very little of value belonging to his wife, save a few pairs of stockings, which the clergyman carried away with him, leaving an inventory of the articles he had taken. The keen sense of the magisterial dignity among the justices was shocked by this attempt on the part of the Dominie to take the righting of his wrongs in his own hands, and the Dutch Vice Director Beekman, as Sheriff, brought suit against the clergyman for having infringed on his office. The case was tried at Altona (now New Castle, Del.) Vice Director Beekman was the Presiding Judge, with three others as associate justices. The unfortunate defendant was convicted of usurping the authority of the Court, and the manner in which the Presiding Judge managed to settle all of the male fugitive's outstanding accounts in the sentence was remarkable. Jacob Young, it seems, had been intrusted with two hundred guilders to buy corn for the Dutch Company, and he also owed a Mr. Dicker, and Judge Beekman, forty beaver skins, and, as he had fled with Lock's wife, the abandoned husband, for having broken open Young's trunk, was compelled to make good all the debts which the latter had left unpaid, and "besides, an award of forty guilders for having usurped the authority of the Court."

The justices believed that the fugitives had fled to Maryland, and sent an express there in search of them. In that opinion the Court was correct, for, in 1693, this Jacob Young, who had settled in Cecil county, was appointed one of the Commissioners of Maryland to treat with the Delaware Indians. The impetuous Dominie, believing that it was not good for man to live alone, in three weeks after his wife eloped, procured a divorce, and by his authority as minister, on Sunday married himself—personally performing the ceremony—to a young girl of about seventeen summers. The divorce, seeming to be irregular, at his trial Andreas Hudde, as Secretary, informed him that his last marriage was illegal. The perplexed clergyman petitioned the Governor for relief, but with what success I have failed to learn.

In 1664, Rev. Abelius Zetscoven was called by the congregation,



who had become weary of Dominie Lock and desired a new minister and schoolmaster, but the latter was loath to relinquish his charge. The new clergyman preached at Tinicum Church on the last Monday of Pentecost, at the request of the Swedish Commissioners, but the opposition of the incumbent was so vehement that the Commissioners had to threaten Mr. Lock with a protest to the Government, before he would permit the candidate to occupy the pulpit. The Dominie was the owner of much land in Chester, and seems to have had an eye to turning a penny wherever he could, which inclination brought him before the Court in 1676, on a charge of selling liquor to the Indians, which was prohibited by law. Not only did he sell it, but as one of the annalists of those early times narrates, his "great infirmity seems to have been an over-fondness for intoxicating drinks. It may, however, be inferred that he became reformed in his later years, for in 1674, he purchased property formerly occupied by Olle Stille, at the mouth of Ridley creek, (now Eddystone,) and, we are informed by Campanius, that he died in the Lord, in 1688." Three years before his death, in a case tried at a Court held January 11, 1685, the Reverend gentleman was, in the testimony, accused of attempting to suborn a witness in respect to a bargain and sale he had made of his house in Upland, to Justa Anderson. The jury found a verdict in favor of the plaintiff, with costs of suit and twenty pounds damages.

Chester, in 1645-'46, was a place of such insignificance that Andreas Hudde, an agent of the Dutch, who was sent by Governor Kieft, as a spy, to learn the condition and number of the Swedes on the Delaware river, as well as to ascertain the strength, armament and military force of the latter, makes no mention of it in his report to his superior officer. It is even doubtful, whether, at that time, Joran Keen had erected a house on his land, inasmuch as in the "Rulla," dated by Printz at "Kihrstina" (Christiana,) June 20, 1644, the statement appears that Upland was a tobacco plantation, as already mentioned. Between the years 1646 and 1648, a considerable settlement must have been made at this point, for in Hudde's interview with the Passyunk Indians, in that year, they spoke of Upland, among other places, in the possession of the Swedes, and charge the latter with having stolen the land from



them, while in Campanius' account of New Sweden, "Mecoponacka," or Upland, is mentioned in the year 1648, (the date of the elder Campanius' return to Sweden,) "as an unfortified place, but some houses were built there. It was situated between Fort Christina, (near Wilmington) and New Gottenburg—Tinicum—but nearer the latter. There was a fort built there some time after its settlement. It is good even land along the river shore."

Ebeling, in his History of Pennsylvania, says that about 1650 there were two Swedish and Finnish settlements in this vicinity, called Upland and Finland—the former afterwards received the name of Chester; "none of these settlements, however, were of importance, not even excepting Upland, which was made the chief place of a judicial district by the Dutch in 1668."

The Indian name of the site of the present City of Chester was Mecoponacka; the Swedish, Upland; the Dutch, Oplandt; and the English, Chester and Upland indifferently until the former entirely absorbed the latter in designating the borough, about the middle of the last century. The proper Indian name of Chester creek was Meechoppenackhan, according to Heckewelder, in his "Indian Names," which signified the large potato stream, "or the stream along which large potatoes grow." This was corrupted into Macopanachan, Macopanackhan, and finally into Mecopanacha. The Indian tribe which owned the land whereon Chester stands, according to John Hill Martin, was the Okehockings, and were subsequently removed by the order of William Penn, in 1702, to "the tract in Chester county, formerly laid out to Griffy Jones, but now vacant." Many of the Indians were soon reduced to menial servitude by the European settlers, and previous to 1657 negro slaves had been brought to the colony and used as laborers.

In the year 1655, the Swedish power on the Delaware ceased, when, in September of that year, Peter Stuyvesant, the redoubtable Dutch Governor of New Amsterdam, appeared off Fort Cassimer—near the present Wilmington—with seven vessels carrying about six hundred soldiers, and compelled the fort to capitulate on the 11th of that month. The wonderful deeds of arms performed on that occasion are duly heralded in the philosophical history of the late Mr. Diedrich Knickerbocker, but, for our purpose, it is necessary merely to state that the whole Swedish provinces along the Dela-



ware fell with that fortress, and Upland, among the others, passed into the ownership of the Dutch. The conquerors were the veriest wantons in their victory. They killed the cattle, goats, swine and poultry of the Swedish settlers, broke open their houses, and robbed them of all they had that was valuable. Rysingh, the Swedish Governor, in his letter to Stuyvesant, particularly mentions the plundering of Upland, as well as other hamlets further up the river, and at Tinicum, he says, "they robbed Mr Papegoya's wife" (daughter of Governor Printz) "of all she had." It should be remembered that the Swedes, before the arrival of Penn, always settled near the tide water, and their usual means of communication and transportation was by boats. Indeed, it is recorded that they would come from New Castle to Tinicum in this way to attend divine service on Sundays, when the Dominie preached at the latter church, and as they rarely traveled by land, no highways were necessary from settlement to settlement other than the Indian trails through the forests, which, owing to the latter's habit of firing the woodlands every Fall, was free from under-brush.

The Dutch found their conquest a costly one, and earnest were their efforts to govern the territory without bringing on a collision between the conquered and the conquerors. To this end they ordered that all the Swedes should gather themselves together in villages, at several designated points, one of which was Upland. The Swedes, however, seemed to quietly neglect to obey this order, and rightly so, for it would have compelled them to have abandoned many of their homesteads and improvements absolutely. Although Stuyvesant believed that the Swedes, in their dislike of the Dutch, were anxious that England might acquire the Province, and had for that reason issued the order alluded to, William Beekman, the Lieutenant-Governor, did not attempt to compel compliance with this mandate of "Hard-Kopping Piet."

The settlement of the territory was tardy, not more than seventeen hundred Europeans, all told, are believed to have been on the Delaware river in the year 1659. The number of inhabitants at this place could not have exceeded a hundred souls. Dr. Smith thinks that Upland was at this time the most considerable settlement in the Province, which afterwards became Pennsylvania, and that Hendrick Huygens, the Dutch Commissioner, four years later





had taken up his residence here, because he reported to Vice Director Beekman, in the year 1663, "a horrid deed" that was committed at this place by a Finn, named Jan Hendrickson, against "the honest Juriaen Kuys Sneart, whom he had cruelly beaten." The letter of Huygens, in which he alludes to the violent assault upon "the pious Juriaen Snewit,"—Jurian Keen—snowhuit, (snow white) "a man who has never irritated a child even," by "a miscreant" of Upland, is dated at "Tinnackunk, 29th M'ch, 1663." The desperado, it seemed, had made an assault on Joran Keen, previous to the one mentioned, and had threatened his life; but the good-hearted Swede had promised to overlook it, if he, Hendrickson, made no further trouble. He did, however, and the evidence on the trial shows that the Finn was a terror to the people of Upland. The judges banished Hendrickson from the jurisdiction of the Court, and he seems to have removed to the vicinity of New Castle, where he was afterwards connected with acts of violence and disorder.

In September, 1664, Col. Richard Nicolls captured New Amsterdam, and, of course, the dependencies on the Delaware river passed into the ownership of the English without further resistance—an event which was welcomed by the Swedes and Finns with manifestations of pleasure. Near the close of the year 1669, an attempt at "insurrection" was made by Marcus Jacobson, alias "John Binckton," &c., but popularly known to the people as the "Long Finn, or Swede," which name was given him because of his lofty stature. He was an adventurer who represented himself to be a son of the noted Swedish General, Conneugsmark. It is the general opinion of historians that his intention was to bring about a general insurrection of the dissatisfied settlers against the authority of Great Britain, and the re-establishment of the Swedish power on the Delaware. His chief associate in this effort was Henry Coleman, a Finn, who was a wealthy man, as wealth was then regarded, and Mrs. Pappogoya and the Reverend Laurence Lock, both looked kindly on the enterprise. Captain Carre, having informed Governor Lovelace, the then English Governor, of the brewing rebellion, he was instructed to have the "Long Finn" and his associates arrested, which was done. The leader was put in



irons, while the others were bound over to answer the charge to be made against them when required to do so.

Henry Coleman, however, fled to the Indians, with whom he had much influence, abandoning his property absolutely. What became of him after his flight is unknown. The "Long Finn" was tried at New Castle, December 6, 1669, and, as was to be expected, he was found guilty, but, by order of the Governor, the death penalty was not enforced, because "many would suffer if the rigor of the law should be extended, and among them divers simple and ignorant people; it is thought fit and ordered that the said 'Long Finn' shall be publicly and severely whipped, and stigmatized or branded in the face with the letter 'R;' with an inscription written in great letters and put upon his breast; that he receive that punishment for attempted rebellion; after which he be secured until he can be sent and sold to the Barbadoes or some other of the remoter plantations." On the 28th of January, following, he was placed on board the ship "Fort Albany," to be transported and sold at the Barbadoes, in accordance with his sentence, which had been announced to the Commissioners to try the case, before the hearing by the Governor in New York. Coleman's property was forfeited to His Majesty, the King, while the others implicated in his attempted disturbances, were fined in the discretion of the Court.

In 1671, the inhabitants along the Delaware were apprehensive that an Indian war was imminent, inasmuch as two whites had been murdered by the savages, and it was generally reported that the Indians were making preparations to massacre all the Europeans settled along the river. The authorities took active measures to prepare for the emergency. Every male that could bear arms between the ages of sixteen and sixty, was instructed to be always provided "with a convenient proportion of powder and bullets," while sale of ammunition to the Indians was interdicted, and no corn or other provision was permitted to be exported. A meeting between the Indian Sachems and the whites was held at Upland, at the house of Peter Rambo—a prominent man of his time—in October of that year, and the Indians agreed to bring the murderers to the whites within six days thereafter, that they might be punished for their crime. At any rate they agreed that they would deliver their bodies to the authorities dead or alive. One of the guilty



braves escaped from his people and could not be delivered as promised, but the other was captured. It is reported that one of the two Indians who had taken him was a personal friend and was loath to kill his captive, but when the latter learned that the Sachems had determined he must die, he requested that their order should be immediately obeyed. His body was taken to Wiccaco and delivered to the whites who transported it to New Castle, where it was hung in chains. The Sachems faithfully notified the tribes that any of their people who should murder a white person would be similarly dealt with, and with that annunciation the war cloud drifted by.

March 21, 1675, Armgard Papegoya conveyed the estate known as Printzdorp—which included a large part of the now South ward—to Robert Wade. The latter person and his wife, Lydia, are said by Dr. Smith and Martin to have come over to this country in the ship "Griffin," with John Fenwick, in 1675, and were the first members of the Society of Friends known to reside in Upland. The authors cited are wrong in their first statement as to the date of Wade's arrival here, having fallen into that error by a mistaken deduction from the statement of William Edmundson, an eminent minister of the Society of Friends, who in the year 1675 visited Upland, and held a meeting at Wade's house. Both the authors cited state that Mrs. Papegoya, in all probability built the Essex House, and that Wade purchased from her, or some other person, the estate with the improvements thereon. In this, however, they are mistaken, for Mrs. Papegoya lived at Tinicum until she returned to Sweden, and was so desperately poor from inability to procure farm laborers, that the authorities were compelled to assist her with supplies of food. The subsequent fine imposed upon her for her complicity in the "Long Finn's" Rebellion rendered her means even more limited than they were before, and it was impossible that she could have erected a building of the character of the famous Essex House. Martin states that the name of this Robert Wade appears in the list of the passengers in the "Griffin," which arrived in the Delaware, 23d of 9th month, (November,) 1675. This we know is incorrect for Wade was in this country long before the date given, while Lydia, his wife, was in England, for letters are extant from him, addressed to his wife, informing her of his purchase of land.



In the year 1673, the colony of New York and its dependencies on the Delaware was re-captured by the Dutch, but before six months had elapsed the red-crossed banner of St. George waved once more over the territory, never to be supplanted except by the standard of the United States of America. With the conquest of New York and New Sweden, the charter of the Duke of York revived, and the English authority was re-established in the provinces, with Edmund Andross, Esq., as Governor, under His Royal Highness, James, Duke of York and Albany, with Captain Carre as Commander on the Delaware. It was during the latter's term of office that the "Duke's Book of Lawes" was promulgated. Under this new order of affairs three judicial districts were established, one of which was at Upland.

On March 4th, 1681, Charles II. signed the Great Charter which conveyed to William Penn the enormous tract of land now known as Pennsylvania, and from that period our early annals become more interesting, for from that time we may date the actual founding of this great Commonwealth. Almost immediately thereafter Penn sent his first cousin, William Markham, to the colony as his Deputy Governor. It is presumed that he came over in the ship "John and Sarah," from London, commanded by Henry Smith, which was the first to arrive here after the grant was made to Penn. for previous to June 21, 1681, the new Governor had presented his commission from Penn to the authorities at New York, and had assumed the reins of government on the Delaware. On August 3, 1681, Governor Markham was at Upland, for he not only had appointed his Council, but on the date last mentioned the members took and subscribed to the oath of office. Governor Markham was intrusted by the King with a letter to Lord Baltimore, which stated that his commission authorized him to settle all disputes respecting the boundary of the territory granted to Penn with his neighbors, and inasmuch as the King's letter required that the parties should meet to adjust these boundaries, Lord Baltimore came to Upland, where, during his interview with Markham, it was found by astronomical observation that this place was twelve miles south of the parallel of 40 degrees, which was the southern boundary of Pennsylvania. This fact effectually put an end to the purposes of the meeting, and from it arose the long controversy between the Penns





and Lords Baltimore, which was only set at rest by the running of the celebrated "Mason and Dixon line."

After Penn acquired ownership of the Province he brought the colony into such prominence that the influx of settlers became so great that during the year 1681 twenty-three English ships arrived in the Delaware, and as Upland was the most considerable place within the Province of Pennsylvania, most of them anchored here and disembarked their passengers. So large was the demand thus made upon the hamlet that the new comers were compelled, in many instances, to dig caves in the ground, near the river bank, wherein they took up their abode until they could construct permanent habitations. These caves were mere excavations, or cellars in the bank, and were about three feet in depth, while over these openings brush was placed so as to form an arched roof about six feet in the clear, which was covered with sods. In such a cave as this Emanuel Grubb was born, near Upland, in 1683. The sufferings of these settlers were great, for it should be remembered that most of them were "not people of low circumstances, but substantial livers," and in the work of constructing these rude habitations, women who had been used to all the refinements and comforts of English life at that day were compelled to take part, and aided their husbands and fathers therein, for hired labor was scarce and could hardly be had at any price.

The winter of 1681 was extremely cold, and on the 11th of December, when the ship "Bristol Factor," Rodger Drew, Commander, came to Chester, the passengers, seeing the small cluster of dwellings, landed near the Essex House, and, as the river was solidly frozen over the night following the ship's arrival, the passengers were compelled to remain in Upland "all winter."

On September 12, 1682, Deputy Governor Markham presided in person at the Court held on that date at Upland, and the first Grand Jury ever known in Pennsylvania was summoned to attend its session, while several other important incidents of judicial procedure are for the first time noted in our history in the records of that tribunal.

Penn, who in the meanwhile had been extremely busy with many schemes looking to the advancement of his colonial possessions, at length determined to embark for Pennsylvania, and, on the 30th



day of the sixth month, (August—for the Friends of those days computed the year as beginning on the first of March,) he sailed from Deal in the ship “Welcome,” of three hundred tons burthen, Robert Greenaway, Commander, accompanied by about one hundred companions, mostly Friends, from Sussex, England. The voyage was lengthy, (small-pox having broken out on the vessel, of which disease thirty of the emigrants died on the passage), and on the 27th day of October, 1682, the “Welcome” stopped at New Castle, where Penn landed, and took possession of the three lower counties, with all the pomp and circumstance usual at that time, in the formal transfer of estates. It is known he stayed at New Castle all night, and the next day the vessel stood up the river and cast anchor off the mouth of Chester creek, opposite the house of Robert Wade, for, as is stated in the manuscript book of Evan Oliver, a passenger on the “Welcome,” “We arrived at Uplan in pensilvania in America, ye 28th of ye 8 month, ’82.”





## CHESTER FROM THE ARRIVAL OF WM. PENN TO THE YEAR 1850.

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VERY little is known of the general history of Chester, at the time of the arrival of Penn at this place, October 28, 1682, and a plan of the settled part of the then town would disclose a mere cluster of dwellings near the mouth of Chester creek, and a few houses might have been discerned here and there peeping out from among the forest trees. Certain it is, that the settlement was very small, for in 1702, two decades after Penn's first visit to his colony, Holm tells us "Maconaca, which is called Chester, was a bare place, without a Fort, but there were some stone houses built there" Doubtless as the sturdy group of emigrants—who gathered at the side of their tall, slender, but graceful, leader, then in his thirty-eighth year—gazed from the deck of the "Welcome" over to the little hamlet of which they had heard so much in "merry England"—three thousand miles away—their hearts sank for a moment when they contrasted the realization with the picture their fancy had drawn of the New World to which they had come. And yet at that time Nature had painted the forests in every variety of rainbow hue. The yellow leaves of the dog-wood, the deep orange of the oak, the maple with its red and golden foliage, the thousand shades which only an American Autumn can disclose, were present, while here and there could be seen among the trees the brilliantly fire-tinted sumach, and the wild creeping vines that entwined themselves about the trunks of the towering oaks, gorgeous in their chromatic mass of tints, greeting the eyes of the emigrants, while the Delaware—a river the like of which they never before beheld,





PENN COAT OF ARMS.





spreading nearly three miles to the further shore, shimmered and glistened under the afternoon sun of that October—really November day.

How they landed, where they were housed, or how entertained at that time, is not known: we have simply the record that William Penn was received by Robert Wade, at the Essex House. Wade had been nearly ten years settled at Upland, and the fact that he was a member of the Society of Friends, and a personal acquaintance in England, was doubtless the reason that Penn accepted his hospitality temporarily, for the dwelling of Robert Wade was not at that time the most pretentious building in the hamlet, since we know that James Sandeland's "Double House" was more spacious; but he being a Churchman, was not drawn towards the Proprietary in the same manner as Wade. I have heard the statement made that when a part of the cargo was being discharged from the "Welcome" on that occasion, a large cask or bale fell upon the arm or leg of one of the crew, and injured it so seriously that it became necessary to amputate the limb. It is said that there was but one surgeon at that time in the colony at Upland. The operation of taking off the limb is said to have been performed successfully under some trees near the present line of Front street, a short distance east of Essex street, now Concord avenue. The flow of blood was arrested by the application of boiling pitch to the stump of the limb. In doing this the doctor unfortunately dropped some of the pitch on his own clothes which ignited them, and he was burned so severely that he died shortly after, in great agony. This story has been told me several times by intelligent persons, descendants of the English settlers of that day, but I have been unable to find the slightest indication from my researches that the event ever took place as narrated. I believe the story is confused with an incident connected with the second coming of Penn, in 1699, to which I will refer in the progress of the narrative.

Before the year 1682, the present City of Chester was called by its inhabitants Upland, and is referred to in all the records under that title. It received that designation because the greater part of the early Swedish settlers in this neighborhood came from Upland, a province in Middle Sweden, on the Baltic Sea, and their



new home was thus named by reason of their love for the place of their birth, and because the natural appearance of the land here was strikingly similar to that of their fatherland.

Dr. Smith, in referring to the landing of Penn, says: "He landed at Upland, but the place was to bear that familiar name no more forever. Without reflection, Penn determined that the name of the place should be changed. Turning round to his friend Pearson, one of his own Society, who had accompanied him in the ship "Welcome," he said: "Providence has brought us here safe. Thou hast been the companion of my perils. What wilt thou that I should call this place?" Pearson said, "Chester," in remembrance of the city from whence he came. William Penn replied that it should be called Chester, and that when he divided the land into counties, one of them should be called by the same name. Thus for a mere whim, the name of the oldest town; the name of the whole settled part of the Province; the name that would have a place in the affections of a large majority of the inhabitants of the new Province was effaced to gratify the caprice or vanity of a friend. All great men occasionally do little things."

Although Dr. Smith cites Clarkson's *Life of Penn*, and Hazard's *Annals*, in support of this statement, it will not bear investigation. We know that Penn issued his proclamation three weeks after his arrival at Chester, to the several Sheriffs of the counties of Chester, Philadelphia and Bucks, as well as the three Lower Counties, to hold an election for a General Assembly, to convene at "Upland." The original letter of Penn, now in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, addressed to several gentlemen requesting them to meet him on the following "so-called Thursday, November 2, 1682," is dated "Upland, October 29, 1682," the day after his arrival, clearly indicates that he did not change the name of this city, in the dramatic manner tradition has stated. But more conclusive is the fact that in the list of the passengers on the "Welcome," Thomas Pearson's name does not appear, although in Armstrong's list the name of — Pearson is found, to which is added, "supposed to be Robert," a statement that may well be questioned. As this mythical personage is represented to be an eminent member of the Society of Friends, the records of meetings ought to disclose his Christian name, but it has never been found among the list of the



early settlers. Hence we have reason to believe that the first person of the name of Pearson in this Province was Thomas, and we know that neither of the Thomas Pearsons—for there were two of that name—came here until the following year, 1683. The second of that cognomen in a diary memorandum written by himself, also in the Historical Society's collection, clearly states when he came. To quote his own words, after setting forth his various adventures, he says:—"On ye 25th day of July, in ye year 1683, I set sail from Kingroad, in ye 'Comfort,' John Reed, Master, and arrived at Upland in Pennsylvania ye 28th of September 1683," almost a year after Penn's arrival. In the report of the vestry of St. Paul's Church, Chester, to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in the year 1704, occurs this sentence: "The people of Chester county showed very early zeal to have the Church of England worship settled among them. This county is so called because most of the inhabitants of it came from Cheshire, in England. Chester the chief town of the county is finely situated on the river Delaware."

Bampfylde Moore Carew, the celebrated "King of the Mendicants," who, while escaping from banishment in Virginia, passed through Chester in 1739, in relating his adventures, records that he came "to Chester, so called because the people who first settled there came for the most part from Cheshire. \* \* \* The place is also called Upland."

In fact the name of Chester, we know, was given to the county when Penn, shortly after his arrival, divided the settled parts of Pennsylvania into three divisions, in deference to the desire of the English settlers, the major part of whom had come from that locality in England, as stated in the extracts quoted; and the name of the shire town soon assumed that title, although its ancient name did not entirely disappear from familiar use until nearly three-quarters of a century had elapsed after William Penn's first visit to the Province. The Pearson story, for the first time, appeared in our Annals in Proud's History of Pennsylvania, a work which was not published until more than a century had elapsed after the incident is said to have occurred.

On the 18th day of November, 1682, three weeks after his arrival, William Penn issued his writs to the Sheriffs of the three



original counties of Pennsylvania, as well the three lower counties, requiring them in their respective bailiwicks, "to summon all freeholders to meet on the 20th instant and elect out of themselves, seven persons of most note for wisdom, sobriety and integrity to serve as their deputies and representatives in General assembly, to be held at Upland, in Pennsylvania, December 6 (4th?) next" In pursuance of this proclamation the Assembly met at Chester on the day designated, December 4, 1682, and organized by the election of Nicholas Moore, of Philadelphia county, President of the "Free Society of Traders," as Chairman of that body. The first two days of the session were consumed in hearing cases of contested election, the adoption of rules governing the meeting, passing the act of Union, which annexed "the three lower counties," (those comprising the present State of Delaware) and providing for the naturalization of the inhabitants thereof, as well as the Swedes, Finns and Dutch settlers in Pennsylvania. On the third day they received from William Penn the "Printed Laws, and the "Written Laws, or Constitutions." The "Printed Laws" were "the laws agreed upon in England," which had been prepared by learned counsel there, at Penn's desire, and printed in that country, and the "Written Laws, or Constitutions," were the ninety bills presented to the Assembly by the Proprietary, out of which the meeting passed the sixty-one chapters of "the great body of the laws." A strange fact is that not one of those enactments, as adopted, is now in force in this Commonwealth. As soon as the statutes had been acted on, the members from the lower counties particularly, became anxious to return to their homes, and so intimated to the Assembly. The speaker considered this desire to adjourn as unbecoming in the members, and bordering on an insult to the Governor. A committee of two of the deputies was appointed to wait upon Penn respecting it, and he consented "that the Assembly be adjourned for twenty-one days, which was accordingly ordered by the Speaker." The body failed to meet again at the time designated by adjournment, and at the next regular Assembly in Philadelphia it is recorded that the Speaker "reproves several members for neglecting to convene at the time appointed when the House last adjourned."

A quarter of a century since an old structure stood on the west-





ern side of Edgmont avenue, north of Second street, which was commonly termed "The Old Assembly House," because of the popular belief that it was in this building that the first Assembly convened in Pennsylvania, December 4, 1682. Dr. George Smith, in his valuable History of Delaware County, conclusively establishes the fact that this building was the first Meeting House of Friends in Chester, and was not erected until 1693, hence the first Assembly, which held its session more than ten years before that date, could not have met in that structure. We know that on the 6th day of the 1st month, 1687, Joran Kyn, or Keen, made a deed conveying a lot in Chester, adjoining his "lot or garding," to certain persons in trust "to use and behoof of the said Chester—the people of God called Quakers, and their successors forever," and on this lot, now included in William P. Eyre's ground, on Edgmont avenue, the ancient Meeting House was built.

Dr. Smith thereupon argues that the Assembly must have met in the Court House, or as it was then known "The House of Defence," which stood on the eastern side of Edgmont avenue, above Second street, and so projected into the roadway, that when Edgmont avenue was regularly laid out as a street, it had to be removed. The Doctor rightly thinks, "It was the only public building in Upland, at the time, of which we have any knowledge." Martin, in his History of Chester, accepts the Doctor's conclusions as unquestionably accurate. Nevertheless, both of these able historians are in error in this. The thought escaped them that perhaps Penn saw that the "House of Defence" was too small for the purpose intended, and, therefore, a private dwelling was used for the meeting of the members. Mrs. Deborah Logan informs us in her notes to the "Penn and Logan Correspondence," that the Assembly convened in the large, or, as then termed, "The Double House," by way of distinction, which James Sandilands, the elder, had erected for his own dwelling, which stood near the creek, and, subsequently, when the road to Philadelphia was laid out, near that highway. On an old plan of the Borough of Chester, made about 1765, now owned by William B. Broomall, Esq., of this city—a copy of which has been engraved for this work—the lot on which "The Double House" stood, is designated as beginning about two hundred feet southerly from the intersection of the present Edgmont avenue and



Third street. The lot itself is about one hundred and twenty feet front on the west side of Edgmont avenue. This House, which was spacious if not pretentious for those times—and would even now be regarded as an unusually large dwelling—had unfortunately been built with mortar made of oyster shell lime, which proved utterly valueless. In a few years the building showed signs of decay, then became a ruin, and as such continued until the beginning of the present century, when its foundations were removed. In time its very existence was generally forgotten, so much so that, as is mentioned, some of our most accurate and painstaking historians were unacquainted with the fact that it had ever performed the important part it did in our early Colonial annals.

Penn, shortly after his arrival at Chester, sent for James Sandilands, the elder, to confer with him to the end that the capitol of the Province should be located at this point, for it was "talkt among the people" of that day "that it was Intent to have built a City (at Upland,) but that he and Sanderlin could not agree." The conclusion of this interview was that Penn had to look elsewhere for a site for the future metropolis of Pennsylvania. This error of the chief owner of land at Chester was disastrous in its results, and was discovered when too late to avoid its consequences, although an attempt was made to correct it, in a measure, on November 19, 1700, when the petition of James Sandiland, the younger, was presented to Governor William Penn—on his second visit to the Colonies—and his Council, in session at New Castle, setting forth that the Royal Patent to the Proprietary gave him "absolute power to \* \* \* erect and incorporate Towns, Hundreds and Counties and to incorporate Towns in Boroughs, & Boroughs into Cities & to make & counstitute Fairs & Markets herein, with all other covenient privileges & Immunities according to the merits of the Inhabitants & fitness of ye places. \* \* \* And whereas ye Petitioner is possessed of a certain spot of land lying in sd Countie of Chester, verie fitt & naturally commodious for a Town & to that end lately caused ye sd spot of Land to be divided & Laid out into Lotts, Streets & Market place, a Draft & Model whereof (the generallie desired & Leiked of by ye sd Inhabitants of sd Countie) is notwithstanding herewith presented & submitted to your honors for your approbation and consent " The same day, it was ordered, after



the heirs of James Sandilands, the elder, had appeared before Council, that "the Proprietary & Governor & Council having approved of the within Petition & of the design thereof & Looking upon the place within propose d to be fitt for a Town did not onlie approve of ye within & annexed model, but also did erect & do hereby erect the said spot of Land so modelled & Laid out Into a Town provided the same do not encroach upon other men's Land without their express consent under their Hands and Seals, and saving to the Proprietor & Governor & everie one their right." It is now generally accepted as an historical fact that Philadelphia was not determined on as the site of Penn's city until he found that no arrangement could be made with Sandilands for lands for that purpose, at this place.

The first street laid out by authority was ordered by the Grand Jury, 8th month 2, 1686, which body reports that they "doe lay out a street and a landing upon the creek to the corner lot far as over against the north west corner of the Court House fifty foote in breadth and from thence up the said Chester town for a street 30 foote in breadthe." This highway was at first called Chester street, then Front street, that runs along the creek, and now Edgmont street, or avenue. In 1689, the Grand Jury continued the street from the present Second street to low water mark on the Delaware river, and from the north-western corner of the then Court House, to low water mark on the creek. This latter short street seems to have been closed at a later date, perhaps before the year 1690, for David Lloyd had the Governor and Council, about that time, to lay out a street thirty-eight feet wide, on the line of the present Second street, from Chester creek to the plantation he had purchased from Neeles Laerson's heirs in 1689. The plot of the town approved by Penn, November 19, 1700, as shown by many ancient deeds, is almost exactly the plan of the old parts of this city as now laid out on the official map.

Penn remained but a short time at the Essex House as the guest of Robert Wade, and after his return to Chester from New York—whither he had gone to "pay his duty" to the Duke of York, by a visit to the latter's representatives in that place—he lodged for the winter at the Boar's Head Inn, a noted public house at that



time, a description of which appears under its appropriate title elsewhere in this volume.

Martin informs us on the authority of Mrs. Sarah Shoemaker, aged 92 years, who died near Chester in 1825, and who had heard her grandfather, James Lownes, often speak of the times of which I am now writing, that during the winters of 1682-'83, Upland presented a very animated appearance. It was the only place then in the Province known to English ship-owners, and consequently, as the destination of the vessels was this port, most of the emigrants landed here and several ships often rode at anchor at the same time off the hamlet. It is stated that the water at that time was deep near the western shore, and vessels could approach so closely to land that the trees would often brush their upper rigging.

The name of Chester, the seat of justice for the new county of Chester, (for the whole territory heretofore termed Upland, had been divided by Penn into the three counties—Chester, Philadelphia and Bucks—which division is said to have been ordered by the Proprietary, November 25, 1682,) now appears to have been used in all official documents and public records. Certain it is that at the Court, which convened here February 14, 1683, that name is employed to designate the place where its session was held. Penn himself in several letters written from this town—for he did not remove to Philadelphia until after March 10, 1683—dated them sometimes Upland, but oftener Chester. Respecting the occurrences of public interest during Penn's residence here, very little has been preserved, and the records are in a large degree devoted to matters pending before the Courts. It is stated that the Proprietary was present at Chester Creek Mills—now Upland—when the first dam was built, which in all probability was before the spring freshets of 1683, at which time the dam was swept away.

Gabriel Thomas, in his *History of Pennsylvania*, written in 1698, in describing the condition of the Province at that time, presents an exhaustive list of the wild game and fruit which abounded near the settlements, and speaks in glowing terms of the plentiful harvest which rewarded the farmer for his toil. In 1683, fish were abundant, for it is recorded that the early fishermen could take six hundred fine fish at one draught. Richard Townsend states that, at Chester, in the year 1682, he and "Joshua Tittery made a net





and caught great quantities of fish, which supplied ourselves and many others; so that, notwithstanding it was thought near 3,000 persons came in the first year, we were so providentially provided for that we could buy a deer for about two shillings, and a large turkey for about one shilling." Quaint Gabriel Thomas, in striving to account for the fact that female wages were exorbitant at that period, remarks: "They (women) are not very numerous; which makes them stand upon high terms for their several services, in sempstering, washing, spinning, knitting, sewing, and in all the other parts of their employments. \* \* \* Moreover, they are usually marry'd before they are twenty years of age, and when once in that noose, are for the most part a little uneasy, and make their husbands so too, till they procure them a maid servant to bear the burden of the work, as also in some measure to wait on them too."

The dispute between Penn and Lord Baltimore, respecting the boundary line of their colonies, had assumed such a form in a short period that it compelled the return of the former to England. To represent him in his absence he appointed Thomas Lloyl President of Council, to whom he delegated the executive authority in the Province, established a Provincial Court and a commission to sell and transfer the title of his lands to purchasers, and on August 12, 1684, sailed for Europe

The history of Chester from this time until the return of William Penn, in 1700, is very meagre and what little is known between those years, will be noted under the article entitled Court Houses and Prisons, elsewhere in this volume, for it is simply in the records of Court, that any incident of public interest is found. In 1688, the inhabitants of the Province were greatly alarmed by reason of a rumor diligently circulated, that an Indian woman from New Jersey had informed an old Dutch resident near Chester, that the Aborigines had determined, on a designated day, to attack and massacre all the white settlers on the Delaware. To add to the general consternation about ten o'clock at night of the evening fixed upon by the savages to begin the attack, a messenger came hurriedly into Chester with the report that three families residing about nine miles distant, had been murdered by the Indians. The people of the town gathered to consider the startling intelligence, and at midnight a Quaker, resident here, accompanied by two young



men, went to the place mentioned, and found that the parties there, alarmed by this rumor, had abandoned their dwellings and fled to the homes of their parents at Ridley creek. The report had been also carried to Philadelphia—had reached there while the Provincial Council was in session—and one of the members, from Chester county, volunteered to go to the Indian encampment on the Brandywine, provided five other persons would accompany him. They there learned that there was no truth in the rumor, and were well received by the Indians, who assured them that they had no cause of complaint against the English.

From the evidence in a contested election case in 1689, we learn that the ballot-box was in use here at that early day, for Griff Jones testified that “at Upland & all the Lower Countyes \* \* black and white beanes (were) put in a hatt, wch is a balloting in his sense & canot be denyed by the Charter when it is demanded.”

Chester at this time had considerable trade, and so great was the pressure upon it for entertaining travelers and strangers, that it is said almost every dwelling in the town was then a public house.

In the fall of 1699, the yellow fever visited Philadelphia as a pestilence. Many of the inhabitants died of the disease, and the utmost alarm prevailed throughout the Province. Although we have no direct record that the malady made its appearance at Chester, that such was the case may be inferentially concluded from the fact that the September Court adjourned without transacting any business, an incident without a parallel in our county's history. Later on, in November of that year, William Penn made his second visit to his Colony, although before leaving England he announced that it was his intention to make it his permanent residence. As the vessel sailed up the Delaware, the Proprietary caused it to be anchored off the town, and coming ashore he, for a second time, became an honored guest at the Essex House. Robert Wade, his friend, was dead, but Lydia, his widow, welcomed Penn, and here he met Thomas Story, who had recently returned from a religious journey to Virginia. The next morning, as is related by Clarkson, Penn was rowed across the creek in a boat to the eastern side, “and as he landed, some young men officiously, and contrary to express orders of some of the magistrates, fired two small sea pieces of cannon, and being ambitious to make three out of two,



by firing one twice, one of them darting in a cartridge of powder before the piece was sponged, had his left arm shot to pieces: upon which, a surgeon being sent for, an amputation took place." The young man, Bevan, thus injured, died the following April, and the expenses attending the nursing and ultimate burial of the wounded lad, were discharged by Penn. This, I believe, is the incident in which the traditionary account, before mentioned, of the injury to one of the crew of the "Welcome," and the death of the surgeon, had its origin, and that story is simply a fictitious outgrowth founded on the actual facts, just narrated.

Penn was not destined to remain in his Colony. William III. is believed to have regarded him in no friendly spirit, and when the Proprietary learned that the ministry, with the intention of converting the Provincial government into a Regal one, had introduced a bill to that effect in Parliament, the urgency of affairs compelled his prompt return to England. He sailed from Philadelphia, November 1, 1701, never to return to the Commonwealth he had founded. Before his departure he established a Council of State, and appointed Andrew Hamilton as Deputy Governor. He had also, October 13, 1701, granted a charter to Chester as a Borough, with the privilege of a market town, and declares, in defining the limits of the municipality, that it "shall ever hereafter be called Chester."

Hon. Joseph J. Lewis, in his sketches of Chester county, states that an old woman at this place, many years after the events, related that Edward Hyde, Lord Cornbury, Governor of the Colony of New York from 1702 to 1708, visited Chester during the fall of the year first given, and that she remembers him because he was the Queen's cousin, and a Lord, and that he wore leather stockings. A more abandoned, infamous scoundrel than this same cousin of two Queen Regents of England, never cursed a people by his misrule. I merely allude to this visit of the Royal Governor, to demonstrate that while our city in its earlier days has entertained distinguished and noble men, its hospitality has also been extended to a rogue, in whom the gallows was cheated of its just due.

Very little of interest attaches to the annals of this city for many years after this event. The Borough grew slowly, for in 1708 Old Mixon refers to it as containing "one hundred houses." Bamp-



fylde Moore Carew, in 1739, states that Chester "contains about a hundred houses, and a very good road for shipping." In 1754, Acrelius said "it had 120 houses," a statement which fully establishes the accuracy of Lewis Evan's assertion, in a letter written in 1753, quoted by Martin, that "Chester, Bristol and Newtown have been long at a stand." Peter Kalm, the Swedish naturalist, in the fall of 1748, journeying from Wilmington to Philadelphia, mentions in his journal, "Chester, a little market town which lies on the Delaware. Tho houses stand dispersed. Most of them are built of stone, and two or three stories high, some are, however, made of wood."

In 1713, the inhabitants of Chester county petitioned Governor Gookin and Council "that ye Borough of the Town of Chester, in this Province may be made a free Port." The petition was referred to William Penn, who took no action in the matter: the partial paralysis from which he suffered for several years before his death, had benumbed his faculties in a measure and sapped the energies that were once so elastic under adversities. His health gradually declined until July 30, 1718, at which date he died.

At an early time in the Proprietary administration, a public pound was located on the lands of Robert Wade, and he was authorized to act as master. After his death it must have fallen into disuse. In 1722, an application was made to Court "for a Pound in said Chester: whereupon the Court orders, that there be a Pound erected in the Market Place \* \* \* 40 feet square well fenced with posts and railings, and a good rack in the middle of sd pound, and that Richd Marsden be keeper of the pound." In latter years, as will be seen from an inspection of the old map of the Borough, in 1765 the pound was located on the triangular lot made by the intersection of Market street and Edgmont avenue.

On the afternoon of August 11, 1732, Thomas Penn, the son of the Proprietary, landed at Chester, and a messenger was dispatched to Philadelphia to apprise the Council, then in session, of his arrival. The Secretary of that body immediately came to Chester, with the congratulations of the authorities, and "to acquaint him—Penn—that to-morrow they would in person pay their respects to him." The following day the Council, accompanied by a large number of gentlemen, visited the Borough, and "after dinner the





Proprietary with his company, now grown very numerous, sett out for Philadelphia."

On September 19, of the following year, John Penn arrived at Chester, from England, and was here met and welcomed by his younger brother, Thomas, and a large number of gentlemen who had come from Philadelphia to greet the eldest son of the Founder. In 1739, the noted clergyman, George Whitfield, preached in Chester, and so great was his fame and the excitement throughout the Colony, occasioned by his eloquence, that about seven thousand persons gathered here to listen to his sermon. It is said that a cavalcade of one hundred and fifty horsemen accompanied the noted divine hither. It was during this year that Bampfylde Moore Carew, heretofore mentioned, passed through Chester, and he relates how the people for many miles round flocked to the places where Whitfield was to preach. Carew came here on Sunday, "stayed all night, and the next morning he inquired of one Mrs. Turner, a Quakeress, who formerly lived at Embercomb, by Minehead, in Somersetshire. From her he got a bill (money) and a recommendation to some Quakers at Darby, about five miles further." At the time mentioned, this Mrs. Turner lived at the north-east corner of Third street and Concord avenue, in part of the house now owned by Mrs. Shaw.

In 1739, when England declared war against Spain, an expedition was proposed from the Colonies against the West Indies, and the Governor, in a proclamation calling for recruits, "to inlist in the Important Expedition now on Foot for attacking and plundering the most valuable Part of the Spanish West Indies," notified the people of Chester and vicinity that those, who proposed to recruit, should call on James Mather in the Borough.

The revolutionary period was rapidly approaching, and the people throughout the thirteen Colonies were aroused by the spirit of oppression which seemed to animate the English ministry in its dealings with the American Provinces. The First Continental Congress in Philadelphia, had, among other means to protect the liberties of the Colonies, resolved that committees should be chosen in every county, city and town, to observe the conduct of all people respecting the suspension of trade with the mother country, and it was responded to by Chester county, December 20, 1774, in the old



Court House in this city, when a committee was appointed consisting of sixty-nine of the most prominent men of the day, many of whom afterwards attained reputation in the State by their conduct during the struggle with Great Britain; and one, the chairman, Anthony Wayne, achieved world-wide fame. The committee had frequent meetings thereafter at the public house of David Coup-land, still standing at the south-west corner of Fourth and Market streets. (An account of the building will be found elsewhere in this volume.)

In December, 1776, it was proposed to institute hospitals for the sick soldiers of the American army, at Darby, Chester, Marcus Hook, Wilmington and New Castle. Tradition states that the old school house, torn down in 1874, and the house now owned and occupied by Jonathan Pennell, on Edgmont avenue, were used for that purpose, and subsequently, as barracks for soldiers. During the year 1776 and part of '77, the signal and alarm Post, No. 8, was located at this place.

The war cloud, however, did not actually drift in this direction until 1777, although during the preceding year, when the destination of the English army which had evacuated Boston, was unknown, so large a body of soldiers was stationed at Chester and Marcus Hook that in both towns there were not sufficient houses to supply the troops with shelter, and hence, April 13th, 1776, the Committee of Safety furnished "100 good tents," for that purpose. In May of the same year the force in cantonment at this place numbered nearly a thousand men, and one thousand pounds of gunpowder, two thousand pounds of lead and twenty thousand musket cartridges were ordered to be delivered to Col. Samuel Miles, commanding the Associators of Chester county, while on the following day, the commissary was ordered by the Committee of Safety to "send down to Chester, for the use of the Provincial Troops under Col. Miles, sixty-five locks." On July 2, 1776, after it became evident that New York and not Philadelphia was the point menaced by the British Fleet and Army, Col. Miles was ordered to march his battalions to the latter city, and this town again was removed from the hourly dread of battle in its neighborhood.

In July, 1777, Chester again became the rendezvous of the raw levies from the county. While General Howe was at sea, and his



destination unknown, the alarm was intense among the people of the seaboard cities, and in this neighborhood it was not lessened when they comprehended that the English Commander, with a well disciplined and equipped army of eighteen thousand men had landed at the head of Elk river, and that Philadelphia was his objective point. In accordance with the request of Congress in the preceding April, a call had been made by Pennsylvania for 3,000 militia, and half of that number was encamped in Chester, which force General Armstrong had been assigned to command. On August 1, 1777, Washington passed through this place, southward, to check, if possible, the enemy's advance. September 11, 1777, that of the battle of Brandywine, was one of if not the most intensely anxious days Chester has ever known. The noise of the distant cannonading could be distinctly heard, like far away mutterings of thunder, and after the battle had been lost, the bearers of ill tidings traveled fast with their unwelcomed intelligence. Early in the afternoon, the first of the discomfited American forces began to straggle in, spreading all sorts of rumors regarding the results of the contest. When Lafayette, wounded in the foot, was brought hither, before he would permit his injuries to be dressed, he stationed a guard at Chester bridge to arrest the disorganized men and return them to their commands. Far into the night the retreating army kept marching into the town, and it is related that Col. Custer, of the Third Virginia Infantry, because of the darkness and to prevent his men being crowded off the approaches to the bridge, at the creek, fastened his handkerchief to a ramrod, and stood there holding it aloft as a signal, until his command had filed by. At midnight, Washington addressed a letter to Congress, apprising that body of the loss of the battle. The missive is dated Chester, and traditionally in the Kerlin family, it is said, he wrote the letter at the Washington House, on Market street. The disordered American army assembled back of the town, and the next day retreated to Philadelphia. On September 15, Lord Cornwallis occupied Chester, and while here the residents of the Borough suffered severely from the depredations of the English soldiers. From thirty-one persons, nearly fifteen thousand dollars' worth of property was taken. After Philadelphia had been captured, General Howe landed a body of troops from New York here November 18. Lord Cornwallis,



with three thousand men, uniting with those already at this point, embarked on transports, and crossed the river to Billingsport. General Green, learning that his adversary outnumbered him, retreated, abandoning the fort. In 1777, while the enemy had control of Chester, it must have presented an animated appearance, for Major Clark, in a letter dated from Mrs. Withey's Tavern, November 19, 1777, states that "eighty sail lie opposite this place, and eighty opposite Bridgeport." Joseph Bishop, an octogenarian, who died many years since, stated that when a boy, he stood on the porch of the old Salkeld house, now the Perkins' mansion, in South ward, and watched the fleet practicing, and on several occasions, when receiving distinguished personages, the yard arms were manned and the vessels gaily dressed with many flags and streamers. It may have been that on one of these occasions, by mistake, a few shots were fired into the town, one of which struck the Steamboat Hotel, another the Graham House, and a third the Richardson House, north-east corner of Market and Second streets, although it is stated to have been an intentional act on the part of the Commander of the frigate "Augusta." During the winter of 1777, the "Vulture," the vessel noted in our national annals as having carried Major Andre, when he ascended the Hudson to meet Arnold, laid off Chester, and on her several prominent Whigs, of this neighborhood, were imprisoned.

On April 8, 1782, the remarkable action between the Pennsylvania vessel of war, "Hyder Ali," commanded by Capt. Joshua Barney, and the British ship, "General Monk," took place in Delaware Bay. Notwithstanding the latter outnumbered the former both in men and armament, she was compelled to strike her flag to the Continental vessel. The American commander brought his ship and prize to Chester, where he left the "Hyder Ali," and in the "General Monk" sailed to Philadelphia. Capt. Jackson, the English commander, who was seriously wounded, was brought to Chester and placed in the family of a Quaker lady who nursed him until he entirely recovered from his wounds.

At the close of the war, Chester, as all other localities, suffered greatly in the depreciation of the Continental currency, and many estates which had been in the families of their owners for half a





century were sold by the Sheriff, while business in the disturbed condition of affairs, was uncertain and precarious.

The history of the removal of the seat of justice from Chester, is related in the article, Court Houses and Prisons, elsewhere in this volume, hence it requires no further notice here.

In 1699, the yellow fever first appeared in Chester, and again in 1793, when the contagion was brought here by some boys who went in a boat to a vessel lying in the stream, on which there were several persons ill with the disease. In 1798, it again visited the Borough. On that occasion, it is said, a woman who fled from Philadelphia to escape the scourge there, died in this place, and as she had requested, previous to her death, that her body should be taken to the latter city for interment, the corpse, while being conveyed through the streets of this town, thus spread the seeds of disease. On Edgmont avenue, from Fourth street to the river, more than thirty persons died, and in the house adjoining Jonathan Pennell's residence, on Edgmont avenue, all the family, excepting a boy of five years, died from the malady.

In 1789, the new county of Delaware was erected, and with that exception, very little of public interest occurred in our annals until the year 1794, when the Whisky Insurrection broke out in Western Pennsylvania, at which time William Graham, in command of a company of cavalry from this neighborhood, responded to the call of President Washington. In 1789, the latter passed through Chester, in a coach-and-four with outriders, and received a congratulatory address from the citizens of the town.

The annals of our city are very meagre for the following half century, and for many years no new buildings were erected, while the population seemed to remain without any material increase. In October, 1814, an encampment of several thousand militia was established at Marcus Hook, and on the 14th of that month the company of Capt. Morgan marched to Chester, where it remained for nearly two weeks awaiting the forwarding of camp equipage by the State authorities. The war, however, was nearly at its close, and these troops never took part in any engagement. In the same year the Bank of Delaware County was chartered.

During the year 1836, the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Balti-



more railroad was surveyed, and in 1838 was opened for public travel.

On Aug. 5, 1843, occurred the "Lammas Flood," which wrought immense damage in Delaware county and in Chester Borough. The day had been rainy, but about half past five o'clock in the afternoon the water fell in torrents for the space of a half hour. The earth, water-soaked, turned off the rain into the feeders of the creeks, and the latter rose with unexampled rapidity. It is stated that a wave, several feet in height, moved down Chester creek like a wall, sweeping everything before it. The water rose here a foot a minute until it had reached a point twenty-three feet higher than the ordinary high water mark, and horses, wagons, animals and trees were hurled into the Delaware river. The railroad and the county bridge at Third street were both swept away. The loss of property along the stream in the Borough amounted to many thousands of dollars.

In the fall of 1845, the agitation of the removal of the county seat from Chester to a more central location began, and the contest ended in favor of the removalists, by a decided popular vote at the election held in October, 1847, and in May, 1851, the Courts of Delaware county were for the last time held in the ancient Borough.





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## CHESTER FROM THE YEAR 1850 TO 1882.

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**T**HE majority of the inhabitants of the venerable Borough believed that the removal of the county seat to Media would be a fatal blow to the prosperity of the town, and that it would rapidly sink in population and as a business point. Few persons comprehended that the hour for its advancement had come. The purchase by John P Crozer of the old Chester mill site to the north-west of the Borough, the erection at that place of a cotton mill, and the location of James Campbell at Leiperville, to the northeast, where he built up a large business in manufacturing cotton goods, had directed the attention of a few thoughtful men to the possibilities and advantages of Chester as a manufacturing centre. To properly appreciate the position of the then Borough, in narrating the awakening of the oldest town in Pennsylvania from the lethargy of a century and a half, it will be necessary to present a short sketch of the men who were to bring about this great change in our local history, as well as to introduce a brief description of Chester as it appeared thirty-two years ago.

John Price Crozer was a Delaware countian by birth. His early life was passed on a farm, until he was twenty-seven years old, when he formed a partnership with George G. Leiper, and embarked in business at the grist and saw mill on Ridley creek. Becoming dissatisfied with that occupation, Mr. Crozer and John Lewis rented part of the grist mill from Judge Leiper, and embarked in cotton spinning. The new enterprise trembled often on the brink of disaster, but, ultimately, it began to return a profit, and when assured that he might venture to enlarge his business, he



purchased Mattson's paper mill and farm, on the west branch of Chester creek. From that hour his career was one of continued success, for so lucrative had his occupation become that, although in the freshet of 1843 his new factory, at Knowlton, was swept away, involving a loss of \$50,000, yet within two years thereafter he purchased from John W. Ashmead the noted Chester Mills, together with some sixty odd acres of land, on which he began extensive improvements. His subsequent career, how he attained great wealth, how he distributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to public charities, educational and religious institutions, is well known to most of our citizens and need not be recapitulated here.

James Campbell, of Stockport, England, came to this country a young man and sought employment in the factory of Mr. Phillips, at Rockdale. He subsequently was manager of the mills owned by James Howton, at Pennsgrove, now Glen Riddle, until 1837, when the latter removed to Groveville, New Jersey, and the former declined to go to that point, although the position he held was tendered him at the new location. Thereupon Campbell started in business as a manufacturer in the machine shop of John Garsed, at Pennsgrove, with only six looms—which had been made by his father-in-law, Mr. Garsed, for a party who became embarrassed and could not take them. From this small beginning his business increased until the opportunity was presented him to obtain the bark mill at Leiperville, to which building Hon. George G. Leiper erected an additional story, to afford space for the machinery required in a cotton factory. At this locality Campbell was very successful and had accumulated considerable capital, when he removed to Chester, with the avowed object of developing the Borough into a manufacturing town.

John Larkin, Jr., was born in Concord township, Delaware county, in 1804, where he worked at farming until he was twenty-three years of age, when he built a vessel and followed the water for seven years, during which time he sailed his own craft and worked hard at his calling. In 1840 he was elected Sheriff of Delaware county; in 1845-'46 he represented the district in the Legislature, and after the city of Chester was incorporated, he was elected its first Mayor in 1866 and again in 1869, and during the term of six years in which he held the office he refused to accept any salary for his ser-





vices. He was one of the originators of the Chester Rural Cemetery, and the President of that Company since the death of Joshua P. Eyre. He is also President of the Chester Mutual Insurance Company, and of the First National Bank of this city.

John M. Broomall is a native of this county, and in his busy life has been teacher, lawyer, Legislator, Representative in Congress, President Judge of the county, and a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1874. Mr. Broomall is a man of vast attainments in history, science, law and literature, in fact, no intellectual pursuit in which he has engaged but evidences his mental powers and remarkable erudition.

In 1840, the population of the Borough was seven hundred and forty persons of all ages and sexes. The town occupied, in a scattered manner, the space extending from the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad to the river, and from Welsh street to Chester creek. But a small part was built upon, and in the area given, most of the houses—many of them dilapidated—had been erected in the preceding century, and the place showed all the features of a finished town. The residence of Dr. William Gray, then but recently built, was an exception, as also that of Major William Anderson, and the mansion of Hon. Samuel Edwards, at the north end of Market street, and that of Joshua P., and William Eyre, at the west end of Fifth street, which were large, modern and comfortable dwellings. A strange coincidence, however, was that each of the two latter houses stood directly in the way of an extension of the streets mentioned, showing that at the time they were built the popular belief was that Chester would never grow sufficiently to require the use of these thoroughfares, and, in fact, no streets at those points were ever laid down on any map, previous to the year 1860. Many of the inhabitants owned the houses they occupied, and there was singularly little desire either to buy or sell land. It was remarked that a property held for sale would not bring a fifth of its value, while a person wishing to buy would have to give ten prices for what he wanted, so loath were the owners to part with their real estate. The change which has since that time so developed the little fishing village, for Chester was scarcely more than that, first began to show itself about 1842. A few properties then changed owners at fair prices. What such



prices were may be gathered from the fact that about 1844 the hotel now owned by Henry Abbott, with the ground extending from Fifth street to Dr. Monroe's office, and from Market street to the rear of the stables, was offered for \$2700, and only an accident prevented the sale. The great difficulty in the way of Chester was, that it was surrounded by large farms held by persons in easy circumstances, who would not sell a foot of ground at any price, and who looked upon those who proposed to build a city here as visionary men, who would run themselves in debt and ultimately fail. Time, however, brought these farms into the market. Death and debt have no respect for conservatism, and by degrees these agencies worked in behalf of the change that was dawning. The first of these tracts of land that came into the hands of the progressive spirits who were guiding the new order of things, was that of William Kerlin, a fifty-acre plot, lying between the Post road and the river, on the west bank of Chester creek.

On this tract the famous Essex House stood, and a few of the trees which grew on the river bank when Penn landed, were still standing, although much decayed, marking the spot where his feet first trod on the land of the great Commonwealth he founded. The Essex House stood on the site of the present brick dwelling at the north-west corner of Front and Penn streets. It was a story and a half in height, its south-east gable fronting the river, the rear or south-west side facing Concord avenue, and its front, with a commodious porch, was to the creek. About one hundred and ten feet in a north-easterly direction from the porch, stood the trees under which Penn landed. This estate, then containing five hundred and sixty acres, had been granted by Richard Nichols, Governor General under the Duke of York, by patent, dated June 1, 1668, to "Justina Armguard alias vpo Papegay of Prinse Doope" daughter of Governor Printz, in fee, and she, March 21, 1673, for eighty pounds sterling, sold the estate to Robert Wade, who built the house where Penn was entertained in 1682. The Proprietary, by letters patent, June 5, 1684, confirmed this tract of land to Wade. On January 9, 1689, Wade made his will, in which he devised three hundred and sixty acres of the estate to Robert Wade and Lydia Wade, the children of his brother Thomas. His nephew, Robert, dying unmarried and without issue, his interest vested in his sister Lydia,



who had married Philip Eilhirz. The latter and his wife, June 1, 1702, conveyed the estate to John Wade, in fee, and he, with his wife Frances, August 24 and 25, 1733, transferred it to Joseph Parker, in fee, and the latter, July 5, 1736, leased the tract of fifty acres, afterwards the estate of William Kerlin, to John Wade, for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years, at a yearly rent of twelve pounds sterling, two barrels of cider and ten bushels of apples. Wade conveyed the lease to James Mather, who died January 11, 1780, and his estate proving insolvent, his interest in the leasehold was sold by Ezekiel Leonard, Sheriff, 5th mo., 27, 1789, to Eleazer Oswald, who in turn, the same day conveyed it to William Kerlin, who by his will dated November 28, 1804, devised the leasehold to his son William. It was he who owned the estate in 1850.

John M. Broomall, then residing in Upper Chichester, supposed that he had bought the farm in 1846, at one hundred and fifty dollars an acre, but the agent, Charles D. Manley, though authorized to sell at that price, was, to his great mortification, unable to get his principal to execute the deed, and the sale fell through. In the early part of 1849, Mr. Broomall, who had in the meanwhile removed to Chester, purchased the farm again of Mr. Kerlin himself after considerable negotiation, at two hundred dollars an acre. A time was fixed for executing the contract of sale, but before the day came, Mr. Kerlin again changed his mind. In December, following, John Edward Clyde, who was quite anxious that a sale should be effected, meeting Mr. Kerlin on the street, agreed to purchase the farm, and insisted that the former should go at once to the office of Mr. Broomall. The latter declined to enter into a negotiation except upon the condition that the deed should be forthwith executed and the sale consummated, if a price could be agreed upon. The condition was accepted, Hon. Edward Darlington was sent for as counsel for Mr. Kerlin, and in half an hour the deed was executed, the price paid being two hundred and fifty dollars an acre. During the negotiations in the early part of 1849, Mr. Broomall had offered to John P. Crozer and John Larkin, Jr., each an equal interest with himself in the farm he then believed he had purchased from Mr. Kerlin. Both of these gentlemen were natives of the county of Delaware, whose attention had been attracted to



Chester as the site of a future city if it could only get room to grow, and they had been looking at the Kerlin farm as a possible outlet. Before the actual purchase took place, Mr. Larkin had the opportunity of buying a large part of the farm belonging to John Cochran, to the north of the town, now forming a considerable portion of the North ward. He therefore declined to accept Mr. Broomall's proposal, and the Kerlin farm was acquired by Mr. Crozer and Mr. Broomall in equal shares, the latter taking upon himself the management of it, with the advice and pecuniary aid of the former.

On January 5, 1850, John Larkin, Jr., purchased eighty-three acres of land, which had formerly been a race-course, from John Cochran. This tract had been included in the estate of David Lloyd, and the greater part of it was embraced in the purchase, May 1, 1741, made by Joseph Hoskins from Grace Lloyd, and which he devised to his nephew, John Hoskins, of Burlington, New Jersey. The latter sold the property to his son, Raper Hoskins, March 22, 1791, and he dying, seized of the property, his widow, Eleanor, administered to the estate, and sold it, April 27, 1799, to Thomas Laycock. The latter dying, and his heirs making default in payment, the property was sold by John Odenheimer, Sheriff, October 26, 1806, to Anthony Morris, who in turn sold it to Major William Anderson, and the latter conveyed it to John Cochran, May 26, 1823, who, dying intestate, the estate was conveyed by the heirs to John Cochran, the younger, who sold it to John Larkin, Jr., at the time already stated. The entire tract was in one enclosure, the only improvement so far as buildings were concerned, was the small stone house, still standing, with its gable end to Edgmont avenue, below Twelfth street, and a frame stable. The land, after it ceased to be a race-course, had been used as a grazing lot for cattle.

Both tracts were laid out in streets and squares, and almost immediately signs of improvement began to manifest themselves in the present North and South wards. Many of the old residents looked on in amazement, and often the quiet remark went round, "These men will lose every dollar they have in this business." The enterprising men, however, paid little attention to these prognostications of misfortune. Dwelling houses were erected, streets





laid out and graded, and capital was invited to locate in this vicinity. Early in the year 1850, James Campbell, of Ridley, purchased the lot and bowling alley formerly belonging to the Delaware County Hotel, which lot was located on the north side of Fourth street where part of the Market House now stands. This building he altered to receive looms, and in March, 1850, within three months of the purchase of the Kerlin and Cochran farms, for the first time the noise of the shuttle was heard in the Borough. When the public buildings were sold, Mr. Campbell bought the prison and workhouse, and at much expense he changed the ancient structure into a cotton mill, thus making the first permanent establishment in which textile fabrics were woven within the bounds of the present city of Chester.

In 1856, John P. Crozer conveyed his interest in the joint property to Mr. Broomall for the cost and legal interest thereon reserving only the half-square of ground on Penn and Second streets, where the Baptist church now stands. This was Mr. Crozer's own proposition, and on being reminded that more than enough land had been sold to pay the entire costs, leaving four-fifths of it as clear profit, he replied that he had gone into the enterprise not to make money but to aid in the development of Chester, and he was quite content that the profits should go to Mr. Broomall who had done the chief part of the work; that his assistance was no longer necessary, but that he would let his capital remain to be repaid by Mr. Broomall, with interest, at his own time and convenience. Of course this offer was gratefully accepted. Shortly after, when Mr. Broomall learned that the fee simple title to the Kerlin tract could be purchased for nine hundred and twenty dollars, from the executors of the estate of Dr. Albanus C. Logan, the great-grandson of Joseph Parker, he availed himself of the offer, and on August 24, 1858, bought the rent and reversions in the leasehold he had acquired from William Kerlin nearly ten years before that date.

In the present North ward, Mr. Larkin, in spite of great opposition, carried out his designs fully. It is related that although he laid out the streets in that part of the town and dedicated them to the public, the Borough authorities refused to keep the highways in repair, and at his own expense he maintained a force of men at work upon them. On one occasion when a member of the Town



Council complained that the streets in the old part of the Borough were neglected, contrasting them with those of Larkintown, which were neat and well kept, and declaring that the public moneys should not all be expended in one locality, another member informed the speaker that Chester had never contributed a dollar for that purpose, and that Mr. Larkin had personally paid for all the highways made as well as maintaining them in repair. Not only did he do this, but he constantly built houses, stores, foundries, shops and mills, in conformity with a rule he had adopted at the beginning of his enterprise, that every dollar he received from the sale of lands or buildings should be expended in further improvements; and hence, for any person desiring to start in business, he would erect the required structure, and lease it to him or them, with the privilege of purchasing the property at its cost price within ten years. Mr. Larkin has built over five hundred houses and places of business, several being large cotton mills. In 1881, he sold the last vacant building lot remaining out of the original eighty-three acres he had bought as an unimproved tract, thirty-one years before. More than thirty years Mr. Larkin spent industriously and earnestly in making the North ward what it is, and only during the last ten years did he receive much assistance, from the labor of others to the same end, in dotting it all over with dwellings and industrial establishments.

To return to the river front; Mr. Broomall, in conjunction with William Ward, in 1862, purchased the farms of Edward Pennell, James Laws and John Jeffery, and in 1863, together with Mr. Ward and Messrs. Seyfert & McManus, of Reading, he purchased the farms of George Wilson, John J. Thurlow and William Johnson, and in 1871, as a member of the Chester Improvement Company, he bought the farms of William H. Morton and Isaac Eyre. He laid out and named the streets between the old Post road and the river, and between Chester creek and Trainer's Third street mills, and only two of the forty-one names have since been changed, Essex street and Salkeld street, the citizens refusing to take, but by a common movement, the former became Concord street, and the latter Broomall street.

The first manufacturing establishment in Chester was the machine shop and foundry of Kitts & Kerlin, and there, in 1837, was



erected the first stationary steam engine, "and its advent," says Mr. Broomall, in a sketch of Chester, in 1872, "produced more sensation among the simple villagers than did the downfall of the French Monarchy." The next engine introduced was one built by this firm about 1840, and used by the late Judge Frederick J. Hinkson in the old Brobson tannery, on Edgmont avenue. The first manufactory of textile goods was that of James Campbell, in the old bowling alley before mentioned, in 1850, shortly after enlarged by his purchase of the county property, a description of which will be found under the title Court Houses and Prisons, in Chester. The first business establishment below Chester creek was the saw mill and lumber yard of Thomas M. Smith, who about 1851, purchased the square of ground between Penn and Concord streets, on the south side of Front street, for \$900. Then followed the sash factory of Lewis Thatcher; a small mill built by the late Alderman Joseph Entwisle, for bleaching cotton; the dye works of John Gartside and Samuel Cliff, and Benjamin Gartside's mill, all in the South ward. In 1854, Dr Bonsal and Abraham Blakeley built what is now the Arasapha mills in North ward, and Samuel Montgomery erected the first mill put up by him, known afterwards as Lilley & Montgomery's, in South ward. John Larkin, Jr., built the Broad street mill for James Campbell, and Mr. Broomall erected for T. B. Price the machine shop at Third and Franklin streets, South ward, which Samuel Eccles, Jr., changed into the Mohawk mills, now operated by Robert Hall & Son. The ship yards of Thomas Reaney and William Frick, since of John Roach & Sons, and other industrial establishments followed in rapid succession in all parts of the city until Chester has now upwards of thirty-five cotton and woolen mills, logwood works, the extensive machine shops of Robert Wetherill & Co.: the Combination Iron and Steel Works; the Eureka Cast Steel Company; H. B. Black's Edge Tool Works; H. C. Eyre & Co., and James Massey's machine shops; Morton, Black & Bro.'s planing mill; the sash factories of Miller Cox, Stroud & Co., and Henry M. Hinkson; several carriage factories and many other industries which have given to this city a national reputation as a manufacturing centre. The entire river front in South ward is now occupied with flourishing business establishments extending along and beyond the city limits for more than three miles.



The graduates of the Pennsylvania Military Academy have spread the reputation of Chester, as an educational point, in every State in the Union; Crozer Theological Seminary stands second to no similar institution in the land in preparing young men for the ministry, and Prof. Gilbert's Academy is noted for thoroughness in intellectual training.

Few eastern towns have exhibited the enterprise and vitality which have characterized Chester since the energetic men I have mentioned aroused it from its inertness thirty odd years ago, and began to invade the slumbers of the venerable hamlet.

In 1852, F. & A. Wiggin, of New York, purchased the remainder of the Cochran estate in North ward, and laid it out in streets and offered the property for sale in lots. In 1862, Crosby P. Morton—from whom Morton avenue takes its name—laid out the large tract of ground south of the old Queen's Road, in Middle ward, in streets and squares. He erected the Chester Dock Mills, (now Lewis & Roop's) cut a dock and built the saw and planing mill at that point, since known as Morton, Black & Brother's, and erected fifteen dwelling houses. His death was a public misfortune, inasmuch as he proposed to make greater improvements had his health not entirely broken down. In 1864, Spencer McIlvain laid out twenty-six acres of the old Caldwell farm in North ward, in streets, and in 1865, John Hinkson and Henry McIlvain made extensive improvements on this tract of ground. They built the Continental cotton mills for John Green, the Abgaddon mills for Barton & Cotton, the Sunnyside mills for James Ledward, and about thirty dwelling houses. This enterprise was followed by John Cochran and John Barton, who purchased part of the Eyre farm in South ward, and brought it into market. Mr. Cochran built many houses, as did also Lewis Ladomus and others in various parts of the town, and Gen. Edward F. Beale, within a few years, has sold many valuable lots in the business part of the city, on easy terms, and supplied the money to those wishing to build thereon, which has greatly improved Edgmont avenue above the railroad, and has resulted in the erection of many imposing dwellings and roomy stores.

In 1856, gas was introduced into Chester, and twelve years later water was distributed to the public by the Water Board from the basin on Concord Avenue. Previous to that, wells and pumps sup-





plied the people, and the scarcity of that element in the Borough, frequently caused much inconvenient to the large manufactures. When Mr. Campbell first established his mill, he was compelled to draw all the water used in the mill from the creek.

During the civil war, Chester's records is excelled by no town of a like size in the nation. She gave freely of her men and means for the preservation of the government. In the early days of the Rebellion, when the news of the firing on Fort Sumpter had just startled the loyal North into activity, the intelligence was one evening brought to Chester, that a low black schooner was coming up the river to destroy the town and burn the bridges on the railroad. The citizens turned out promptly, organized themselves into a military company for defense, and, that that body did not cover itself with heroic laurels is simply due to the fact, that the enemy learning of the preparations made to receive them, discreetly refused to ascend the Delaware as far as this place. The Crum creek campaign, however, deserves a chapter in the unwritten history of that trying period in our country's story. Subsequently John P. Crozer tendered the buildings since known as the Crozer Theological Seminary as a hospital for wounded soldiers, and many maimed men, both in the North and South, to this day greet the name of this city with grateful recollections of the thousand kindnesses shown them by its residents, while they were inmates of the national hospital here.

By Act of Assembly, February 13, 1866, the ancient Borough was incorporated into a city. Hon. John Larkin, Jr., was elected the first Mayor, serving two consecutive terms from 1866 to 1872, and was succeeded by Dr. J. L. Forwood, who was honored in being the executive of the city during the National Centennial, holding the office for three terms, from 1872 to 1881. He in turn was followed by Hon. James Barton, Jr., the present incumbent, whose term will include the observances of the Bi-Centennial Landing of William Penn at Chester. A peculiar circumstance is that each of the persons who have been Mayors of this city, are representatives of old Delaware county families, and the ancestry of all of them can be traced backward in our county's annals to the coming of the first settlers of their name will be almost coeval which was of Penn himself.



## COURT HOUSES AND PRISONS AT CHESTER.

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**T**HE Swedish settlers at Upland must have had a crude but generally accepted system of judicial authority reposed in some person or persons, to preserve the public peace, at least, if no power to enforce right between parties in civil disputes was recognized. In the lapse of time we have lost all record or tradition even respecting the tribunal which administered even-handed justice according to the rude notions of those early times. The first mention we have of a Court being held at Upland is found in the "Records of Upland Court" itself, from 1676 to 1681, edited and annotated by Edward Armstrong, Esq., and published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. From this valuable work the greater part of our present knowledge of the judicial proceedings of the early days of the Province is derived.

At the session of Upland Court, November 14, 1676, an order was made providing that Neeles Laerson be paid "for his charges for keeping the Court last year," and that the former clerk, William Tom, "deliver to the present clerk, Eph. Herman, the records and other public books and writing belonging to the Court." This order was obeyed, but the documents were found to be in such confusion that Tom was order to properly arrange them before he transferred them to his successor. Tom, however, died in 1677, and the records, being still in his possession at the time, are now lost to posterity. The inn of Laerson is believed to have been on Edgmont avenue, north of the present Second street. He was the owner of 181 acres of land in Chester, covering a large part of the present thickly built up portion of the city to which I am now referring. Neeles Laer-



son was a quarrelsome neighbor, as will be seen by an examination of the records. In 1678, James Sandilands, on behalf of the inhabitants of Upland, called the attention of the Court to the fact that Laerson had built a fence closing the old and usual way to the meadow, which obstruction the Court ordered the latter to remove. On the same day the church wardens complained that in taking possession of two lots in Chester, which he had bought from Dominic Lasse Carolus, he had included some of the church or glebe lands. The Court ordered that he should be allowed that which he had bought, but, if it was found that he had taken more than was by right his, it should be annexed to the church lots.

The first Court of which we have information was, as shown, held at Learson's inn, but the justice ordered November 13, 1677, that Captain Hans Jargin, who had been occupying the building as a barracks for his company, should "fit up" the House of Defence or Block House and furnish it "fitt for the Court to sitt in against ye next Court." Although there is no positive record showing that the House of Defence was used by the Court for its sessions, it is now generally conceded that the evidence fully established the fact that it was so occupied. This building, which was constructed of logs, stood on the east side of Edgmont avenue, about eighty-four feet from the present Second street; was rectangular in shape, and was fourteen by fifteen feet in dimension. It was erected at an angle to Second street and extended into the roadway of Edgmont avenue. Neeles Learson, March 13, 1678, was ordered by the Court "to make or leave a lane or street from Upland creek to ye House of Defence or County House" between that time and the next Court, and in default to be fined at the discretion of the judges. As the early settlers traveled almost wholly by water, it was very essential that there should be free access from the creek to the public buildings, and this means of communication the pugnacious Laerson seems to have interrupted until the strong arm of the law dealt summarily with him. How long the House of Defence was used as the public buildings of the county, I cannot say, but in 1703, after two other building in succession had been occupied by the Court, the Grand Jury presented the old Block House "as being a nuisance and dangerous of taking fire, and so would endanger the town." "The Court," so runs the old entry on the docket, "in deliberate



consideration, ordered the said house to be pulled down and that Jasper Yeates, Chief Burgess of the Borough of Chester, shall see the order performed." Previous to 1665, there seems to have been no place for the detention of prisoners in Chester for two years before that date, "John Ward for sundry Felons, committed to the custody of the Sheriff, and made his escape with irons upon him."

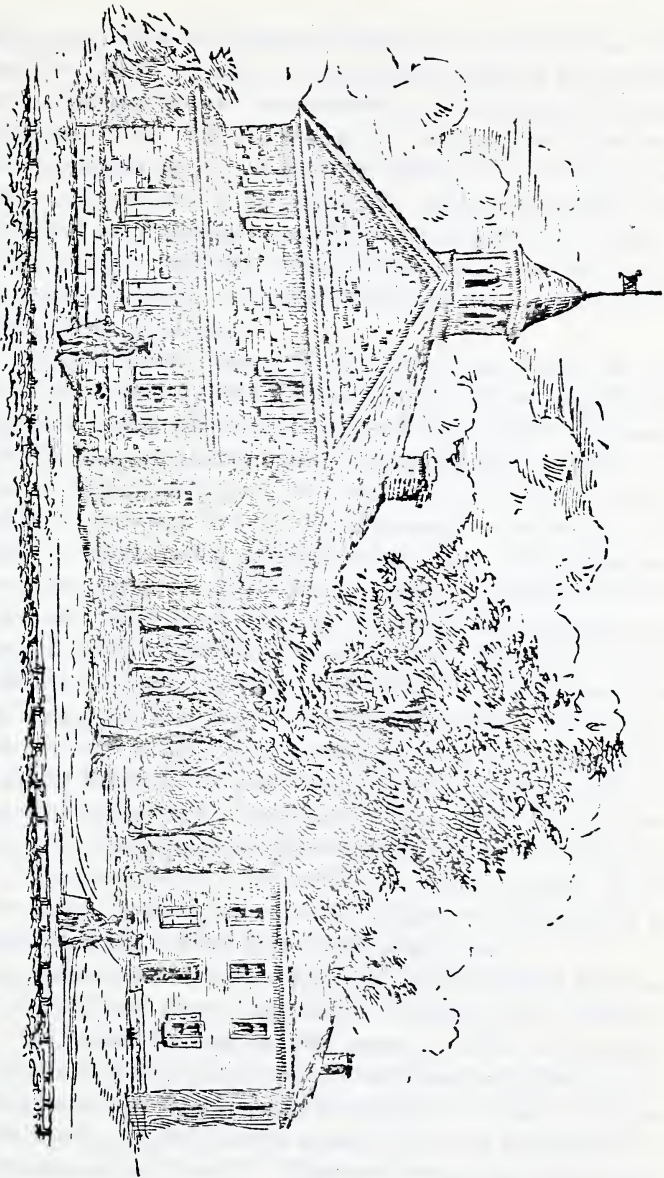
The third Court House, or the third building wherein Court was held, was built in 1684-'85. Dr. Smith, the late able historian of Delaware county says: "A jail was erected at the same time, but there is reason to believe that it was built near the creek, and that there was a street laid out between the two buildings." Henry Hollingsworth, who was a Friend, "for cutting the eaves of the new prison," was dealt with by meeting the same year. This Court House, both Dr. Smith and John Hill Martin believe, was located on the east side of Edgmont avenue; and in the draft of the first settled part of Chester, in Smith's History, it is marked as being between the House of Defence and the Hoskin's house, known to us of the present generation as the Graham house. The student of our ancient annals will find more confusion in the authorities respecting the sites of the several Court Houses, than in any other details of the early days of the Colony. This last building, after it was no longer used for county purposes, was ordered by the Court, at the March session, 1701, "to be set on sale the 6th day of the third month next, papers to be set up to give notice that it is to be sold at Vandew."

Whether the sale was had, according to order, I do not know, but the property must have passed to Ralph Fishbourn, of Chester, gentleman, for in the latter part of the year 1705, the Legislature passed an act "to assure, grant and convey unto Ralph Fishbourn one messuage, cottage house, or tenement, and lot of ground thereunto belonging, situated in Chester, in the county of Chester, formerly known by the name of the "Old Court House."

The fourth Court House, so far as its foundation is concerned, is still standing on the west side of Edgmont avenue, nearly opposite the House of Defence, its precise location being two hundred and fifty-six feet six inches from the south-west corner of Edgmont avenue and Third street. It was built by John Hoskins, in 1695, and he conveyed the lot to the county the same year. The old







OLD COURT HOUSE, BUILT 1724.



building, now owned by Jonathan Pennell, has a part of the wall of this Court House standing in the northern gable of the present structure, between the two end windows, and extending up nearly to the second story. The old part of the wall and that which was added after it ceased to be the county building, is still easily discernible. The jail was in the cellar, and the iron rods which formerly barred the prisoners' escape from confinement, while admitting fresh air to the cells, still remain in the weather-stained frames in the foundation walls. The Court room and Jury rooms were in the first and second stories.

At the same Court, March 1701, at which the sale of the old Court House erected in 1684 was ordered, the prison being found inadequate to retain the culprits, Jasper Yeates, Ralph Fishbourn, Joseph Cobourn and Andrew Jobe, were appointed supervisors to build a new prison on the grounds of James Sandilands, the younger, and were instructed that the erection should be twenty-five feet in length by eighteen feet in width in the clear. This structure, so far as the prison was concerned, was built, for the old draft of Chester, now owned by William B. Broomall, Esq., locates this building as south of the Court House built by Hoskins in 1695, and Sandilands, by his attorney, David Lloyd, in open Court, delivered a deed for the land to the commissioners of the county. Within the walls of the old goal, languished, in 1718, Hugh Pugh and Lazarus Thomas, who were hung May 9, of that year for the murder of Jonathan Hays; and here, too, in 1722, were detained William Hill, Mary Woolvin, and James Battin, under sentence of death. The first two were reprieved for twelve months by Sir William Keith, Deputy Governor, but Battin was directed to be executed and hung in irons in the most public place.

I have serious doubt whether the Court House alluded to in the report of the Grand Jury of the 24th of February, 1701, was ever built. The Grand Inquest, on that occasion, called the attention of the Court to "the necessity of a Court House and prison house," but stated also that "there is little money in the bank, and that many have not paid their moiety  $\frac{1}{2}$  rate of the last assessment, desire that such may be forced." They also recommended the speedy gathering of the county tax remaining unpaid, and requested the Justices to issue warrants therefor, and end their report with the



declaration that in their opinion "Law and Justice cannot have its perfect course without such housis for their distribution as afore-said." We know that at the December Court, 1701, the Justices ordered repairs to be made "to the court and prison hous," and appointed Walter Martin, John Hoskins and Henry Worley to be supervisors and oversee the work, with power to provide materials, employ workmen, and to finish the repairs as speedily as possible. The supervisors were also instructed to provide a pair of stocks and a whipping post. Whether the expense of the building of the new Court, as desired by the Grand Jury, in 1701-'2, was greater than the county could undertake, cannot now be determined, but there is no documentary evidence to show that such a structure was ever erected, and, I endorse the opinion of Dr. Smith and John Hill Martin, that the next Court House, in chronological order, was the old building on Market street, known to us of the present day as the City Hall.

The fifth Court House, including the tavern of Neeles Laerson, in the number, was the massive stone structure still standing on the west side of Market street, which was built in 1724, the date stone being in the south wall, but covered with the dull brownish preparation which still defaces the ancient edifice, and hides the numerals from sight. The building has the pent roof projections over the first-story windows, as was the style of architecture of that day, and as originally constructed was surmounted with a small belfry rising from the centre of the roof, in which formerly hung a bell, with the words "Chester, 1729," cast in the metal. The bay or semi-circular projection at the north side, in the rear of the Judges' bench, was added at a latter date. The jury rooms were in the second story of the building. Dr. Smith tell us that tradition has handed down an incident "as having happened during the building of the Court House, or some other public building in Chester," which he relates as follows :

"During the progress of the work a young lady was observed to pass and repass the building daily, dressed in very gay attire. After the promenade had been continued for some time, one of the workmen, less mannerly than his associates, upon the appearance of the lady, called out :

"In silk and scarlet walks many a harlot."



The young lady, feeling indignant at the insult, promptly replied :

“ By line and rule works many a fool.”

Unfortunately for the tradition connecting this incident with Chester, the same story is told respecting the erection of an edifice in York, England, which building antedates the discovery of America by the Genoese mariner, and the anecdote is related of several localities in Great Britain years before we have knowledge that any European had settled at Upland.

When the new Court House was finished an Act of Assembly was procured, “ to enable the trustee to sell the old Court House and prison belonging to the borough and county of Chester,” and in 1725, the building mentioned, the one built in 1695, and part of the wall of which stands in the house now owned by Jonathan Pennell, on Edgmont avenue, was sold to Wm. Preston, of Philadelphia, mariner, for £27.

The presumption is that the old jail and workhouse, which stood at the north-west corner of Fourth and Market streets, were built in the same year as the Court House, but we knew that the old Prothonotary's office, which still stands, falling back from the present building line of Market street, and now owned by Jas. Hampson, was not erected in that year, for at “ the private session ” of the Court, held at the house of John Hannum, in Concord, December 15, 1724, Joseph Parker petitioned the Court, “ setting forth ye great danger ye records of ye county lay in, as well as by casualties of fire, as other accidents:” the Court “ allows ye petition to be reasonable, and orders ye clerk to present ye same before ye commissioners and assessors of ye same county, in order that they may fit a room in ye new Court House for keeping ye said records in ; and when prepared order ye old clerk to transmit all ye said records to ye place so appropriated accordingly, and not to be removed without ye Court's direction.” Indeed, I much doubt whether that building of Mr. Hampson antedates the Revolutionary war, and my reasons for that conclusion are these : Joseph Parker succeeded David Lloyd, as Prothonotary of the Courts, and at his death, in 1766, was succeeded by Henry Hale Graham, who retained that office until March 26, 1777, when Thomas Taylor was appointed to succeed Mr. Graham. Taylor never assumed the duties of the position, and Benjamin Jacobs was appointed April 4, of the same year.





On the 28th of July, the records of the county were still in Mr. Graham's possession, for on that date, the Executive Council authorized Caleb Davis—Benjamin Jacobs not having qualified—who was appointed in Jacob's stead, to "enter the dwelling and out-houses of H. H. Graham, take possession of the books and papers of the county, and remove them to a place of safety." Joseph Parker had kept the records in an office alongside his dwelling house—the old Logan house on Second street—and Henry Hale Graham had after that deposited the records in his office, the one-story building on Edgmont avenue, north of Graham street, now belonging to the estate of Henry Abbott, deceased. It seems that in the growth of the business before the county Court, the rooms in the second story of the Court House were necessary for the use of the Grand and Petit juries, and hence the order of the Court of December 15, 1874, had to be disregarded. The Prothonotary's office, I am of opinion, must necessarily have been erected subsequent to the battle of Brandywine, for it was the dread of the threatened British attack on Philadelphia, which occasioned the alarm of Council as to the safety of the county records, and called forth the order to Caleb Davis.

The old county prison and workhouse, as I said before, were built at about the same time as the Court House. The jail was two-stories high, built of square cut stone, and extended westwardly along Fourth street. In the front part of the building was the Sheriff's house. This was a structure two stories and an attic in height, presenting in the front to the street, the general style of the Court House. Back of the prison and extending along Fourth street was the workhouse, also of stone. (Mr. William Beatty has recently from memory prepared an excellent picture of the old prison and workhouse.) In 1741, the Court House and Jail were repaired and painted, and a well dug in the Court House yard. The old pump, with a heavy iron handle, stood, within the memory of many of our older residents, a nuisance in winter, because of the drippings therefrom forming ice and rendering its locality a dangerous one to pedestrians. Many years ago the trunk was taken out and the well filled in. Part of the old brickwork of the well is under the front foundation of the store No. 404 Market street. During the year just mentioned, the commissioners paid Nathan Worley £10 for



planks used in flooring the two dungeons on the east side of the prison, and Thomas Morgan was paid £5 11s. 6d. for 150 pounds of spikes used in laying the dungeon floors. In front of the goal and extending to the Court House doors was a double row of Lombardy poplars, which afforded a pleasant shady walk in the summer, and frequently during periods of political excitement, here the orator of the day held forth and saved the nation by his noisy mouthings. The old trees at length grew so unsightly, many of their branches having died, that over half a century ago the poplars were cut down and a double row of lindens were planted to replace the ancient trees under whose towering branches our Revolutionary sires discussed the Boston Port Bill and other measures preceding the actual outbreak of hostilities between the Colonies and the mother country, and within the venerable structure proceedings were had to raise the quota of the Continental troops required from Chester county, as in after years similar meetings were held to provide soldiers during the Rebellion.

In 1728, John and Walter Winter were convicted of the murder of an Indian woman, Quilee, and they were executed July 3, of that year. At the bar of the old Court House, in 1752, Thomas Kelly was convicted of the murder of Eleanor Davis, and in less than a month thereafter paid the penalty of his crime. In 1760, John Lewis was convicted of the murder of his wife, Ann, and four years after Jane Ewing was convicted of infanticide. In 1764, Phebe, a slave of Joseph Richardson, was hung for robbery, and her master received £55 from the Colonial treasury, her appraised value. In 1768, Thomas Vaughan and John Dowdle were convicted of the murder of Thomas Sharpe; in 1770, Matthew McMahon was convicted of the murder of John McClester; in 1772, Patrick Kennedy, Thomas Fryer, Neal McCariher and James Dever were convicted of rape—the three last were reprieved during Lieut. Governor Richard Penn's pleasure—but Kennedy was executed; the same year Henry Phillips was convicted of the murder of Richard Kelley; in 1775, James Willis was sentenced to death for the murder of David Culin, and the sentence was duly executed. In 1778, James Fitzpatrick, the noted outlaw of Chester county, was arraigned and plead guilty of larceny and burglary, and was executed on the 26th of September, 1778. While in the old jail,



Fitzpatrick attempted to escape and had almost succeeded, when the noise of falling stone attracted attention and he was discovered. The next day he was removed to Philadelphia for greater safety, and returned to Chester jail the night preceding his execution. At the December Oyer and Terminer of 1785, Elizabeth Wilson was convicted of the murder of her two natural sons, twins, and, while in the cell in the old jail, she made her confession at the solicitation of her brother, to Judge Atlee, Attorney General Bradford, Elder Fleeson, the rector of St. Paul's Church, Sheriff Gibbons and her counsel, on which the Executive Council was petitioned to grant her a reprieve for thirty days, in order that the real culprit might be brought to justice. Her sad story lingers in the traditions of our county. Indeed, long years ago the residents of Chester would frequently relate the occasional appearance of a spectral white horse and rider, which on stormy nights could be seen and heard clattering along Fourth street at a headlong pace to the prison door, and that reached, the noise ceased and the apparition faded into the darkness. Many of the superstitious people of that day believed that the phantom steed bore the unhappy William Wilson, whose ride to Philadelphia, in January, 1786, to procure a respite for his sister, his return hither, owing to unavoidable delays, just a quarter of an hour after she had been executed, crushed out his love for human society. For the last half century no one has been bold enough to assert they had seen the mounted ghost, and many of those who, in former years made such declarations, seem to have entirely overlooked the fact that William, "The Hermit of the Welsh Mountain," for such William Wilson became, did not die until 1819.

In May, 1780, Joseph Bates, who was convicted of burglary, was sentenced to be hanged at the usual place of execution at Chester, at 2 o'clock, P. M., on the 20th day of that month; and on the 26th of June of the same year, Robert Smith and John Smith were sentenced to be hung on Saturday, July 1st, at the same place where such executions usually took place. The locality where the extreme penalty of the law was enforced, I have been unable to ascertain, although we know the place where Elizabeth Wilson was hung. In January, 1786, Robert Wilson was in jail under sentence of death for burglary, but February 7, the Executive Council grant-



ed him a pardon on condition that "he transport himself beyond the seas, not to return to the United States." On June 5, 1786, John McDonough and Richard Shirtliffe, who had been convicted of rape and were confined in the old jail under sentence of death, were ordered to be executed, but the Executive Council reprieved Shirtliffe, instructing the Sheriff, however, that the fact should not be communicated to the condemned man until he had been taken under the gallows.

At the close of the Revolution the residents of the upper part of Chester county began to protest against the distance they had to travel to reach the county seat, and Col. John Hannum, a brave Revolutionary officer, (during the war he was captured at his house in Goshen township, one night by the British light horse, and taken prisoner to Philadelphia,) who subsequently became a shrewd politician, was the leading spirit in the movement, which assumed decided proportion, when the Legislature passed the act of March 20, 1780, authorizing William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kink, John Sellers, John and Joseph Davis, or any four of them, to build a new Court House and Prison in the county of Chester, and to sell the old Court House and Prison in the Borough of Chester. The commissioners thus appointed, being composed largely of persons opposed to removal, failed to take any action, and a supplement to the act of 1780 was adopted March 22, 1784, authorizing John Hannum, Isaac Taylor and John Jacobs, or any two of them, to carry the act into execution. The three gentlemen thus named were ardent removalists, and went promptly to work to carry the law into effect. By the wording of the supplement they were restricted from erecting the buildings at a greater distance than one mile and a half from the Turk's Head Tavern, in the township of Goshen. This location, it seems, was inserted in the bill through the influence of Col. Hannum, who, with an eye to his personal advantage, believed that it would bring his land within the site designated. In this, however, he made an error, for his premises proved to be more than two miles from the Turk's Head. The commissioners, notwithstanding Hannum's mistake, began the erection of a Court House and Prison adjacent, and connected by a jail yard. After the buildings had progressed until the walls were nearly completed, and while work was suspended because of





the cold winter, the people of old Chester succeeded, March 30, 1785, in having an act passed suspending the supplement under which the new structures were being erected.

To make themselves sure in retaining the county seat in the ancient Borough, a number of the anti-removalists gathered in Chester under command of Major John Harper, then landlord of the City Hotel, in this city, and provided with arms, a field-piece, a barrel of whisky and other necessary munitions of war, took up the line of march for the Turk's Head, intent on razing the walls of the proposed Court House and jail to the earth. In the meanwhile Col. Hannum, learning of the hostile designs of the Chester people, dispatched couriers in all directions, calling on the friends of removal to rally to the protection of the half-completed buildings, and Thomas Beaumont is said to have ridden all night from farmhouse to farmhouse in Goshen and Bradford townships, summoning the clan. The forces under command of Major Harper were marching toward the Turk's Head, and at night had encamped at the General Green Tavern, a few miles east of West Chester, when Col. Hannum was first apprised of their approach. The latter collected his men within the building. The next morning the Chester people came in sight of the fortification, when Major Harper planted his artillery on an eminence known as Quaker Hill, commanding the Court House. The absurdity of the matter dawning on the minds of some of the persons in the ranks of Harper's men, they contrived to bring about a cessation of hostilities, and the whole affair ended in a jollification, during which the cannon was repeatedly discharged in rejoicing over peace restored. The armistice was based on the agreement of the removalists that they would wait further operations on the building until the Legislature should take action on the matter. Although the removalists desisted from work only until the anti-removalists were out of hearing, they were not long delayed, for, at the next session, March 18, 1786, the following curiously entitled Act became a law: "An act to repeal an act entitled an act to suspend an act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, entitled an act to enable Wm. Clingan, etc.," and under the provision the buildings at the new county seat were finished. On the 25th of September, 1786, a law was passed empowering William Gibbon, the then Sheriff of Chester county, to remove the



“prisoners from the old jail in the town of Chester, to the new jail in Goshen township, in the said county—and to indemnify him for the same.”

The old Court House and county buildings in Chester were sold on the 18th of March, 1788, to William Kerlin, for £415. After the passage of the Act of September 26, 1789, creating the county of Delaware, Kerlin sold the property November 3, 1789, to the county for £693 3s. 8d., and Henry Hale Graham was appointed President Judge of the several Courts of Delaware county. Judge Graham, who was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1790, died January 23, of that year, in Philadelphia, while attending a meeting of that body, hence he never presided over the Courts of the new county, the first session of which was held February 9, 1790.

In 1817, John H. Craig was convicted of the murder of Edward Hunter, of Newtown. Squire Hunter and Isaac Cochran were witnesses to a will which was unsatisfactory to Craig. He believed that if the witnesses were removed the will would become inoperative, and so believing, he laid in wait to murder them. Hunter was shot in the evening as he was taking his horse to the stable. The murderer concealed himself at the foot of some rolling ground, and the figure of his victim was brought prominently into view by the brilliant sunset back of him. After he fired the fatal shot, Craig's presence of mind forsook him. He threw away his gun in the bushes near by and fled. The gun, found where he had cast it, led to his arrest and final conviction. In his confession Craig stated that several times he had attempted to take the life of Cochran, but each time he raised his gun to shoot, the person walking with Cochran stepped to his side in such a way as to interpose himself between the murderer and his proposed victim. Craig was executed near Munday's run, in the summer of 1817. In the fall of the year 1824, William Bonsall, of Upper Darby, who was ill at the time, was brutally murdered by three men. Michael Monroe, alias James Wellington, Washington Labbe and Abraham Boys, were arrested and tried at Chester for the crime. Hon. Edward Darlington, who is still living at Media, was prosecuting officer of the Commonwealth, and Wellington was defended by Benjamin Tilghman. The jury, which rendered its verdict on Sunday morn-



ing, October 29, 1824, convicted Wellington of murder in the first degree, Washington Labbe of murder in the second degree, and acquitted Abraham Boys. Wellington was hanged Friday, December 17, 1824, on Mrs. Bartholomew's common, on the Concord road, above the present water works. It is said that five years after Wellington's execution, a convict dying in Sing Sing prison, stated under oath, that he and two other men were the real murderers of Bonsall. The sworn confession being presented to the proper authorities, Labbe, who had been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, was pardoned, but his long incarceration had so undermined his health, that he died shortly after his release.

In 1824, when Joseph Weaver was Sheriff, a convict named Tom Low succeeded in making his escape from confinement. He had been in the jail yard, as was usual, at a certain time of the day, and, being forgotten, he managed to get possession of a spade, with which he burrowed under the yard wall, coming out about fifteen feet from the Court House. He was never recaptured.

On Tuesday, October 5, 1824, Gen. Lafayette was the guest of Chester. He was accompanied by Gov. Shulze and staff, General Cadwallader and staff, and many of the dignitaries of Philadelphia. The steamboat did not reach the landing until eleven o'clock at night, but a line of boys, each bearing a lighted candle, was formed extending, it is said, from the wharf to the Washington House. Most of the houses in the town were brilliantly lighted, and the windows decorated with transparencies and designs. At one o'clock in the morning the General and friends were "regaled with a sumptuous entertainment" at the Court House, which had been prepared by the ladies of Chester. Lafayette remained in the ancient Borough during Wednesday when he reviewed the volunteers of Delaware and Chester counties, and on Thursday, at 7 o'clock in the morning, he started in a coach and four for Wilmington, accompanied by a suitable escort.

In 1841, Thomas Cropper, a colored man, for the murder of Martin Hollis, in Birningham township, was hung in the jail yard. Hon. John Larkin, Jr., was Sheriff at that time. Cropper, as the day fixed for his execution drew near, made several attempts to escape, and in doing so filed some of the bars in the chimney in his cell apart. His hair was crisp and abundant, and he had concealed



a watch spring file therein so adroitly that for a long time the authorities could not discover the tool with which he accomplished his work. This was the last case of capital punishment in Delaware county.

During the forties the old prison was the scene of a practical joke perpetrated on Major Peck, a military magnate of the State, who had been ordered to Chester to review the militia here. The influence of Friends was such that public opinion was adverse to warlike education, and the visitation of the Major was regarded in no friendly spirit. I apprehend that Hon. John M. Broomall, then a young man, had more to do with the peculiar circumstances attending the military hero's visit than he cared to have known at the time it took place. However, several of the practical jokers, who then infested Chester, induced the Major to visit the prison on the pretext that within its ancient precincts were several relics of the long ago, worthy of inspection by a stranger visiting Chester. The plan worked to a charm. After the party had gained admission to the jail and the door was locked behind them, the keys were concealed, and all that day until evening the military gentleman and two of the roysters of Chester stood looking through a grated window in the second story, calling to the people below in the street, to procure their release. The keys could not be found until night had nearly come, but several times during the day the imprisoned men lowered strings to the crowd below and drew them up with provisions and other refreshments pendant thereto. After his release Major Peck had several other jokes played upon him before he shook the dust of Chester from his feet, never to revisit it.

In 1845 began the agitation of the removal of the county seat to a more central location, and in November of that year a meeting was held at the Black Horse Hotel, in Middletown, to consider the topic. The Grand Jury at the November Court, as had been done by a former Grand Inquest, recommended the building of a new jail, and the removalists were anxious that no steps should be taken towards that end until the people had an opportunity to consider the mooted point, and hence they petitioned the Assembly to enact a law that the question should be submitted to a vote of the people. In 1847 the Legislature passed an act to that effect and after a bitter struggle, the election held October 12, 1847, resulted in a ma-





majority of 752 in favor of removal. The question of the constitutionality of the law being raised, the Supreme Court in 1849, sustained the statute, and Media was selected as the new county seat. Thus Chester, after being the seat of justice of Delaware county for sixty-two years, was again shorn of its honors. Court was held in the old Court House for the last time by Judge Chapman, President, and Leiper and Engle, Associate Judges, May 26, 1851. The session continued until Friday, May 30, 1851, when the Crier, for the last time in the ancient building proclaimed the Court adjourned *sine die*. The records were removed to Media in June 1851. On August 25, of the same year, Court was held at Media for the first time. During that session Robert E. Hannum, Robert McCay, Jr., and Charles D. Manley, Esquires, were appointed Examiners on the application of Thomas J. Clayton, to be admitted as an attorney of the several Courts of Delaware county. Twenty-three years later Mr. Clayton was elected President Judge of the county, which position he now holds.

After the change of the county seat was settled beyond cavil, the old buildings and grounds in this city were sold December 9, 1850, in three lots. The Court House and two lots were sold to the Borough authorities for \$2601, the Prothonotary's office and lot adjoining it on the north, to James Hampson, for \$1525, and the jail and lots adjoining to James Campbell, for \$3520.

Previous to the purchase, Mr. Campbell, who had been a successful manufacturer at Leiper ville, saw the natural advantages of Chester, and had determined to locate here. In *The Delaware County Republican* of April 5, 1850, appeared the following local:

“PIONEER FACTORY.—The new manufacturing establishment projected in the Borough by Mr. James Campbell, of Ridley, was put in partial operation last week, and the puffing of the steam engine and the music of the shuttle are daily heard in our midst, causing us increased wonder why a town, possessing so many and rare advantages as our own was not years ago converted into a great manufacturing mart. Mr. Campbell is about to extend his buildings, and in a short time will have one hundred looms in active operation. The machinery used is handsomely finished and of a superior kind. We have examined a specimen of the goods made by it and predict that they will find a ready sale in whatever market they may be offered.”

In this article Mr. Walter alludes to the old bowling alley which



stood on the north side of Fourth street, where part of the Market House is now located. The *Republican* failed to record an incident which happened when the first loom was started in the Pioneer mill, by the late James Ledward, then in Campbell's employ. A number of citizens of Chester were present when the machinery first began to move, and as they saw it in motion, all present broke into a cheer, and afterward, they one and all sang "Hail Columbia." Many who were then employed in the first manufacture of textile goods in Chester, will recall this incident to memory. After Mr. Campbell purchased the jail and workhouse, he tore down the northern wall of the old structure and built out in that direction, so that his mill, retaining the name "Pioneer Mills," extended over to and included the prison yard walls. In the new addition he kept the Jacquard looms, and thereon were woven quilts and fabrics of a like character. The great difficulty he had to contend with was the scarcity of water, and to meet this want he expended thousands of dollars in sinking wells in the yard. The new enterprise, which had required a large outlay of means, was getting well established when the panic of 1856 came upon the country, spreading ruin in all directions and crushing down industrial establishments by the thousands.

Mr. Campbell at that time became financially embarrassed, and in 1858 the "Pioneer Mills" passed into the ownership of the late General Robert E. Patterson. The latter sold a lot on Market street to Amos Holt, who erected a brick building, now occupied by Rorer & Mingin, as well as the adjoining lot to the present owner, John Gregg, who built a store for the book and stationery business. Holt's building was subsequently sold to William Powell, and in succession it became the property of Wiss Willey, Charles Roberts, and at present is owned by Mr. Cook. The mill, after Campbell's failure, was occupied by James Stephens until about 1863, when Messrs. Roberts, Wilson & Willey carried on the manufacturing business therein. In 1865, Gen. Patterson sold the Market street front to James Chadwick, who in 1866 tore down the old building and erected Lincoln Hall. While taking down the tall flag pole which stood on the sidewalk at Fourth and Market streets, the halyards had been drawn through the block, and Charles Martine clambered up to make a rope fast so that the pole, lower



and topmast, might be pulled over into the street. After he had climbed a goodly distance, the pole which had rotted where it entered the ground, broke off level with the sidewalk and fell, fatally crushing Martine beneath it. The rear part of the old prison passed into the ownership of John Cochran, and on part of the lot the Market House now stands. Chadwick sold the property to Messrs. Gartside & Sons, and they in turn conveyed it to Chester Lodge, No. 236, F. A. M., who now own it.

After the Borough authorities acquired the old Court House they made many changes, provided a commodious hall in the second story for the use of the Council, which is to-day used by their successors, the Council of the City of Chester; they also removed the old belfry and built a steeple in which was placed a four-dialed clock and a new bell. The old one, which had called together judges, lawyers, jurors and suitors for nearly a century and a quarter was removed to the ancient school house at Fifth and Welsh streets.





## HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN CHESTER.

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### **BRIEF NOTICES OF THEIR OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS.**

#### *The Boar's Head Inn.*

**T**HIS ancient hostelry stood in the line of the present Penn street, on an eminence, the footway approaching it having a slight ascent to the building. It was one story and a half high, with peaked roof, the gable end standing toward Third street, and from it, just below the eaves, projected the crane from which the old sign of a boar's head was suspended. The house was constructed of heavy frame timber, filled in with brick, and outside as well as inside the laths which were interlaced in a kind of basket pattern, were covered with plaster made of oyster shell lime and mud, while in place of hair, swamp grass was employed to hold the composition together. The doors were peculiar in the manner in which they were hung, a peg or projection from the door above and below fitted into holes made in the frames, and on these they swung instead of hinges. The windows, with the exception of the one in the kitchen were small; the glasses, 4 by 3 in size, were set in lead. The sashes were not hung with weights, a comparatively modern improvement, and when it was desired that the lower sashes should be raised, they were supported by pieces of wood which fitted into the grooves in the frames, or a turn buckle placed half way up sustained the weight. The large window in the kitchen was made to slide one sash past the other. The roof was of split shingles, and





the kitchen floor was laid in flagging some of which were as large as 6 by 8 feet, and under these was a body of eighteen inches of sand on which they rested. In the kitchen on the side opening to the west was a large double door through which a cart load of wood could be drawn if desired. The chimney was an enormous affair, nearly sixteen feet in width, and the wide-mouthed old fireplace was spacious enough to hold entire cord wood sticks on great iron dogs, while on either side in the fireplace were benches, where, on excessively cold days the chilled inmates of the house could rest themselves, while enjoying the blazing fire on the hearth. The cellar, which was under the front part of the building, was a model, and its like would be difficult to find among even the most imposing structures of this day. It was of dressed stone, the joints were true, every stone set square and as carefully laid as the masonry of the City Hall. The workmen might well have been proud of this exhibition of their skill. The front room, which was used as a sleeping room, was spacious, as was also the sitting room back of it, but both these apartments, as well as the ones above, were without means of warmth in the winter. The well was noted for its clear, pure water, and often in the evening the residents of Chester, in the first half of the present century, who were compelled to use the mineral waters of the town, would walk over to the ancient well to enjoy a cheering draught from its refreshing depths. The old house was shaded by many varieties of fruit trees, such as cherries, apricots, pears and plums, and apples, of the approved varieties of our early days, were abundant in the garden, where many flowers perfumed the air with their delightful odors.

It was in this house that William Penn passed the winter of 1682-'83, and, doubtless, as he sat in the kitchen, watching the flaming wood in the fireplace, he could not but contrast the dreariness of his then surroundings with the brilliant courts of the Grand Monarch of France and that of his unscrupulous and subservient tool, Charles II. of England, in which he had often been received. Notwithstanding, nowhere in his spoken or written words do we find that he gave utterance to his regrets at the change in his mode of living, from the elegant refinement of that day, (which in ours would have been rude and boisterous,) to the frequent want of even the very necessities of life he was then undergoing.



We do not know who it was who had the honor, as the then landlord, to receive under his roof the founder of a great Commonwealth, but doubtless it was Jonathan Ogden, who in his will, dated August 17, 1727, and probated thirteen days thereafter, styles himself inn keeper. In the early deeds from Wade, his land is mentioned, and I presume that he acquired it previous to Penn's coming, although I have been unable to establish this fact from the record. He devised this property to his sons David and Joseph Ogden and Katharine, his daughter, share and share alike. The executors named, George Ashbridge and Jacob Howell, failed to carry out the testator's intention, inasmuch as he directed them to sell his real estate as soon as possible and divide the proceeds among his children mentioned. How Katharine's share became absorbed in those of her brothers I do not know, but the title remained in equal share in the two sons and their descendants until purchased by Isaac E. Engle, December 29, 1826, from the children and grandchildren of David and Joseph Ogden. The descendants of the latter had all removed from this neighborhood, but the children of David Ogden, excepting his son David, who resided in Wilmington: his daughters, Sarah Pyle, Ann Siddons, Mary Cotter, all lived in Chester, and during the greater part of her widowhood Polly Cotter, as she was familiarly called, resided in the old house. She vacated it because of increasing age, and the house was rented to William Baggs, who lived there until he died. Mr. Baggs was at one time offered the whole property for several hundred dollars, but declined to purchase it, as he was not sure the investment would have been a good one, and, so far as he was concerned, it would not have been, for Chester did not awaken from its lethargy until several years after his death. James Baggs, the only son, removed to Philadelphia, and Katharine married Samuel Ulrich in 1828.

The Squire, for such Samuel Ulrich afterwards became, and is remembered more particularly by that title, was a genial, jovial gentleman, who loved a pleasing joke but never played a practical one to the injury or inconvenience of his neighbors, a pattern of a magistrate in that he never fanned the flame of dispute between suitors, but ever sought to settle the difficulty in such a way as to remove all rancor from the minds of the parties. He abounded in recollections of the olden times of Chester, and related his remi-



niscences of the past with all intonation and emphasis necessary to give point and expression to his narrative. He died December 5, 1871.

Jane Baggs married Jeremiah Stevenson, but died many years ago. "Jerry" Stevenson is one of our best known citizens. When Hon. John Larkin, Jr., was Sheriff, he was one of his deputies during the execution of Thomas Cropper, in the jail yard, and after the trip had been sprung and the prisoner's struggles unfastened the ropes that bound his arms, he it was who pinioned his arms again. A merciful act, for the half-hanged man clutched wildly with his hands at the rope by which he was suspended, and his suffering was rendered more intense because of that effort. "Jerry" was a noted shot in his younger days.

Mary Baggs became the wife of Hon. John Larkin, Jr., whose active, energetic life, memorable for its public usefulness, I have mentioned fully elsewhere

After the family of Mr. Baggs moved away from the old dwelling it had several tenants, and at last a colored family, Warner Pryor's occupied it. On the morning of March 20, 1848, the Pryor family vacated it, and the same evening the old building was found in flames. The fire was supposed to be an incendiary one. "Jerry" Stevenson who was employed to remove the ruins of the old dwelling, when he came to take up the flagging in the kitchen, found deeply embedded in the sand on which they rested, an old hatchet, peculiar in its shape, but of good steel, which had been dropped there by one of the workmen when the building was erected—certainly before the arrival of Penn.

The old historic structure having disappeared, when Crozer and Broomall began the improvement of Chester, south of the bridge, in 1850, the present Penn street was laid out by order of Court, August 29, 1850, and the well, so noted for its water, was in the course of the street. I am told that the old well, walled over, almost in the middle of Penn street, exists to this day. Part of the site of the Boar's Head Inn having been taken by the public for a highway, the remaining premises belonging to the estate of Capt. Isaac E. Engle, who had died in 1844, while on a voyage to China, was conveyed December 21, 1863, by John C. Davis, trustee to sell the real estate, to Samuel Ulrich, for \$1,363. On the lot thus pur-



chased the latter erected the Delaware House. and the property is still in the ownership of his heirs.

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### *The Old Hoskins (Graham) House.*

John Simcock, of Ridley, received a patent from the Duke of York for sixteen yards, fronting upon Chester creek and running back into the land of Neeles Laerson, bounded on the north by lands of Jurian Keen, and on the south by land of Neeles Laerson. On the 5th day of 6th month, 1684, Simcock sold to John Hoskins, then spelled Hodgkins, the tract of land, and the latter in the year 1688, built the house now standing at the south-east corner of Edgmont avenue and Graham street.

The house thus erected was used by him as an inn, and was a substantial structure, as is evidenced even in its present declination by an inspection of the building. It is two stories in height, with attics; the steps and porch which were located before the street line was definitely fixed, extend a goodly distance into the sidewalk. A hallway runs through the centre of the building; a wide, easily ascended staircase rises from the rear of the entry at the south side to the apartments above. The balustrade is fashioned of hard wood and is very massive, while the steps of ash, in many places, show marks of worms who have eaten deep grooves in the solid planking. The windows in the lower rooms are deeply recessed within the apartments and old-time seats constructed therein. The heavy beams supporting the upper floors stand prominently out from the ceiling. In the rooms on the first and second floors on the north side of the house, the high old-fashioned wooden mantels over the large fireplaces are flanked by enormous closets, which are lighted by small windows in the outer walls—those in the southern end have been walled up—and in a closet in the room over the dining room to the north, when a friend and myself visited





the old house in September last, a bed was spread, just as nearly as two hundred years ago similar beds were made for the children of the early settlers of the Province, who stopped at the old hotel in 1688—the year of the Great Revolution in England. The floors are laid in hard wood, and the flooring boards are wide, almost the entire width of the trees from which they were cut. The ceilings are lofty for the time when the building was erected, and the house is divided into numerous sleeping apartments intended to accommodate many guests. The steep roof externally would indicate that the attics were so low that they would be uncomfortable to the inmates, whereas the contrary is the fact. The kitchen, which is built in an L on the north-eastern end of the house, is large, the fireplace comprising almost the entire eastern end—now enclosed as a closet—is of that ample size usual among our ancestors, that the benumbed wayfarers could seat themselves at either side of the chimney, on benches provided for that purpose, and enjoy the warmth of the roaring fire of huge logs, formerly the only way employed to heat that part of the building. In the days of its ancient grandeur there was a portico or veranda in the rear of the main building extending ten or twelve feet outward, which was enclosed with lattice work, where, in the summer time the hospitable table was spread. An old oven, long since torn down, was attached to the house on the north side of the kitchen, and a well of good water, now abandoned, was located in the rear and at some distance from the portico.

John Hoskins and Mary, his wife, were natives of Cheshire, England, and came to this country in the year 1682. In August, 1684, he purchased from John Simcock, the property whereon he afterwards built the house; and he had purchased 9th month, 21, 1681, from Penn, before leaving England, two hundred and fifty acres of land, which was laid out to him in Middletown township, between the lands of Richard Crosby and David Ogden, 4th month, 27, 1684. He was a member of the General Assembly which sat March 12, 1683. His will dated 11th month, 2, 1694-5, and probated August 15, 1698, in Philadelphia, is signed John Hodgskins, but the renunciation of the Executors named therein, dated 12th of 6 mo.—'98, speak of him as John Hoskins. He left two children, John and Hannah, and his widow, who although aged, married in 1700,



George Woodier, of Chester. His daughter Hannah married in 1698, Charles Whitaker. His estate was a large one for those times, the appraisement amounting to £450 12s. 2d., and the different articles set forth therein, as contained in the various rooms of the house wherein he died, answer to the number in the present Graham House.

His son, John Hoskins, married in 1698, Ruth Atkinson, and in 1700, when only 23 years of age, was elected Sheriff of the county, an office the duties of which he discharged so successfully that for fifteen years in succession, excepting during the year 1708, he was continued in that office. To him the old homestead descended, and here he lived until his death, October 26, 1716. He was the father of four sons and one daughter, Mary, who married John Mather. One of the sons I suppose died before their mother, for in the will of Ruth Hoskins, dated July 3, 1739, she mentions only her sons Stephen and Joseph Hoskins—although John was still living, and I presume had taken the estate of 250 acres patented to his grandfather, in Middletown township—and devised to her son-in-law, Mather, a house and lot. Stephen Hoskins was born in Chester, 12 mo. 18, 1701-2, and Joseph was born in the same place, 4 mo., 30, 1705.

Stephen Hoskins married in 1727, Sarah Warner, of Maryland, and moved into that Province, but returned to Chester, 1730, and was elected Coroner of Chester county. About 1743, he removed to Philadelphia, and it was to his son John, of Burlington, that Joseph Hoskins, of the Porter House, devised the real estate, of which he died seized. To Joseph Hoskins, respecting whom I have more fully alluded in the notice of the Porter House, the old homestead descended, and he, June 4, 1762, sold the property to Henry Hale Graham.

Henry Hale Graham, the son of William Graham, and grandson of Richard Graham, of the manor of Blackhouse, in the county of Cumberland, England, and nephew of George Graham, the maker of the noted clock at Greenwich which regulates the time of the world, and the discoverer of the mercurial pendulum, by which the differences in the temperature of the seasons is overcome, was born in London, July 1, 1731, and came to the Colony when an infant. His father first settled at Darby, but before the year 1740 removed



to Chester, where he died August 6, 1758. His mother, Eleanor, a daughter of Zedemiah Wyatt, of London, who it is said by Mrs. Deborah Logan, in her manuscript notes to John F. Watson's "Visit to Chester, in 1824," "was a woman of excellent sense, a gentlewoman born, and had received the best education herself in England. She was like a parent to my mother (Mary Parker) and the other young persons of that time, at Chester, who enjoyed greater advantages than could be found in most other places." We know very little of the early life of Henry Hale Graham except that he was a hard student and one of the best penmen in the county, whose peculiar but clear and beautiful chirography the records of Delaware and Chester counties even now attest.

In 1761, he was appointed one of the Justices of the county of Chester. Again in 1775 to the same office and to the like position in 1789. He was appointed Register, Recorder, Prothonotary, and Clerk of the several Courts of Chester county, in 1766, on the occasion of the death of Joseph Parker, in whose office previous to that time he is believed to have been employed. In the report made to Governor Richard Penn on the condition of the Province, in 1775, the compensation of the offices of Register, Recorder, &c., then held by Mr. Graham, is given as £120 per annum. Henry Hale Graham married Abigail, daughter of Thomas and Mary Pennell, July 1, 1760. In March, 1777, Thomas Taylor was appointed to succeed Mr. Graham in office, but he never assumed its duties, and in April of the same year, Benjamin Jacob was appointed to the same position, but he refusing to accept it, Caleb Davis was therefore appointed, and on the 11th of June following was qualified for the place. On July 28, the records were still in the possession of Mr. Graham, for at that time Caleb Davis was instructed to "enter the dwelling and outhouses of H. H. Graham, take possession of the books and papers of the county and remove them to a place of safety." In 1777, when the British frigate "Augusta" opened fire on the town, the family in the Graham House sought safety in the cellar, and it is traditionally reported that one of the shots struck the building, doing considerable damage. When the English army marched through Chester, in 1777, they destroyed much property, and Mr. Graham's loss from that cause amounted



to over £25. He seems to have taken no active part during the Revolutionary war.

In 1789, he was named, with others, one of the trustees to purchase the old public buildings at Chester, and was appointed President Judge of the newly created county of Delaware; was a member of the second State Constitutional Convention, that of 1790, and died while attending the deliberations of that body. In the *Pennsylvania Packet*, January 26, 1790, is the following item:

“On Saturday, the 23d inst., departed this life at Philadelphia, after a short illness, Henry Hale Graham, Esq., in the 59th year of his age, President of the Courts of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions for Delaware county, and one of the Delegates in Convention for altering and amending the Constitution of the State. And on Tuesday morning his remains were interred in Friends’ burial ground at Chester, attended by his family and a very large collection of relatives and acquaintances and a committee of the Convention.”

The estate thereupon descended to William Graham, the only son of Henry Hale Graham, who was born in Chester in the old house, in 1766. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1788, in which year he was married to Jane Robinson, a sister of Captain Thomas Robinson, who subsequently married William Graham’s sister Catharine. During the Whisky Insurrection in Western Pennsylvania, in 1794, he commanded a troop of cavalry from Delaware county, and while in that command his exposure brought on a disease of the throat which affected his voice, at times, so that he could not speak above a whisper. This vocal difficulty became permanent several years after, owing to the fact that in company with several gentlemen, he went gunning to Chester Island, and became separated from his companions. When dark came he could not be found, and his friends returned to Chester, determining at early dawn to resume their search for him. All that night he remained on the bar, and as he was short in stature, the water rose until his head and shoulders were alone out of the water. When rescued next morning his voice was entirely gone, and he never again recovered it so as to be able to speak in public, and even in conversation he was often almost inaudible. He died December 19, 1821, and in his will, dated March 4, 1820, he devised to his wife “the house and lot where I now dwell, with all the outhouses and appurtenances for and during the term of her natural life, this devise to



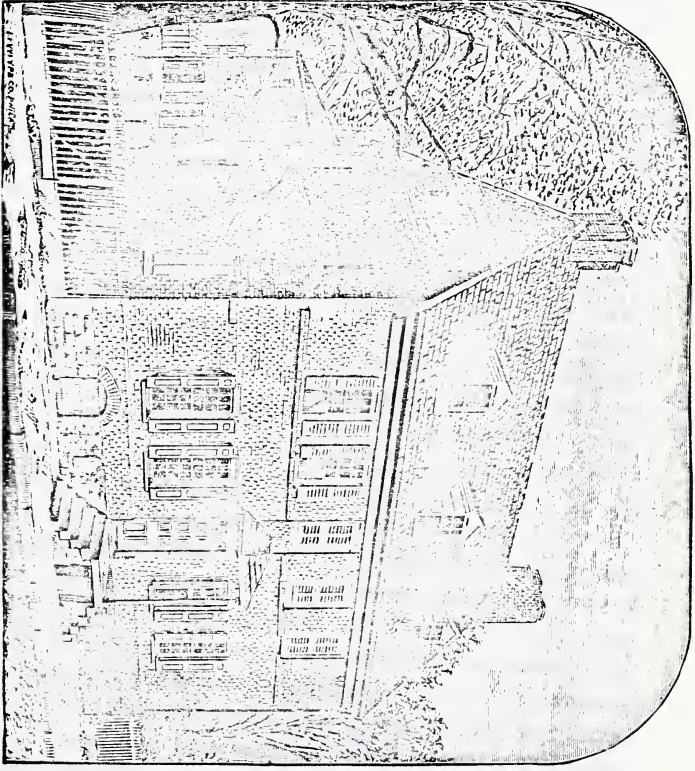


include all the land in the square on which the house now stands as I now occupy the same," with remainder to his four sisters.

Jane Graham, the widow, lived in the old dwelling for a year or so after the death of her husband, when she removed to Philadelphia, and the house was leased to Dr. William Gray, who, then recently married, resided there for several years. He was followed by Samuel Smith, and in time by Mrs. Sarah P. Combe, one of the heirs of the estate of William Graham, until the death of Jane Graham, the widow, December 10, 1855, after which the estate was sold by order of Court, and the old house and lot was conveyed April 9, 1857, to John G. Dyer, whose heirs still own it. After the premises passed into the ownership of Mr. Dyer, the house was occupied by Mrs. Darlington, and subsequently by Col. W. C. Gray until within the last ten years, since which time the old dwelling has had numerous tenants, and is now occupied by W. T. Jenkins as a restaurant.

There is an indistinct tradition that early in the last century when John Hoskins, the younger, was Sheriff, and resided in this house, he arrested a person of some prominence, and took him to his own dwelling for safe keeping, rather than place him in the common jail. It is stated that in the night-time, when it was very dark, the prisoner came out from his room, opened the back window at the stair landing, in the second story, and jumped from the window on the inclosed portico beneath. The distance was not very great, but he slipped on the roof and fell to the ground below, sustaining such injuries that he died in a few minutes thereafter. This is the vague story of a century and a half ago which has descended to us, and it is impossible at this late day to furnish fuller particulars of the event, or in fact to declare with absolute certainty whether there is any truth in the narrative whatever.





HOSKINS (GRAHAM) HOUSE, BUILT 1688.



*The Logan House.*

This dwelling was built by Jasper Yeates, in the year 1700, on ground purchased from David Lloyd, December 11, 1699, and formerly a stone on which was cut the initials "J. & C. Y." with the date 1700 underneath, similar in appearance to the date stone of the old Porter House, was set in one of the gables. These initials stood for the names Jasper and Catharine Yeates. The ancient structure was massively built of brick, which material is frequently said to have been brought from Europe, a statement which is not worthy of much consideration, since we know that at the time the house was erected, several brickyards were in operation on the Delaware, in Philadelphia, and at Burlington, New Jersey, and freights were active to the Colonies, so that it is not to be supposed that the owners of vessels would ship such heavy and bulky materials to the exclusion of lighter and better paying freights, particularly when the latter was seeking transportation. It was two stories in height, with a tent-like roof forming an attic within, with steep sides. Over the first-story windows was a pent roof, similar to that remaining on the old City Hall, and a porch at the front door, with seats at each side of the door, at right angles to the building. A wide doorway gave access to the spacious hall, many small diamond-shaped panes of glass set in lead, in the large window sashes, gave light to the several apartments, and casements at the head of the stair landing furnished the same to the wainscoted hallway. All the rooms were wainscoted also, and the panels were painted or stained in imitation of mahogany. Large closets were on each side of the wide chimney places, lighted by windows in the outer walls. Under the high wooden mantel pieces in the parlor and the room opposite, across the hall, the fireplaces were lined with illuminated tiles, delineating incidents of Scriptural history. Large buttresses were built against the gables for strength, and smaller ones to guard the brick walls on each side of the main building. These buttresses were subsequently removed.

An incident connected with this old house has descended to us through more than a century and a half of years. The winter of 1740-1 was memorable for its extremely cold weather. It is rela-



ted by Mrs. Deborah Logan, whose ancestors at that time resided in the ancient mansion house, that one night an old man-servant, a constant smoker, rose from his bed and went to the kitchen to light his pipe. Angry growlings by the watch-dog caused him to look out of the window. The moon was up, but partly obscured by clouds, and by that light the old man saw an animal which he took for "a big black calf" in the yard. He thereupon drove the creature out of the enclosure, when it turned and looked at him, and he then learned that it was a black bear. The beast, it is supposed, had been in some way aroused from its winter torpor, and had sought shelter from the cold, which may account for its apparent docility. The next morning it was killed in a wood about half a mile distant from the Logan House.

Jasper Yeates, of Philadelphia, a native of Yorkshire, England, married Catharine, daughter of James Sandilands, the elder, and in 1697, purchased mills and a tract of ground at the mouth of Naaman's creek. The next year he built a goodly sized structure between Chester creek and Edgmont avenue, for a granary or storehouse for grain on the second floor, and established a bakery in the lower room. It should be recollected that two hundred years ago, Chester creek, at that point, was considerably to the westward of the present stream. He was a prominent man of his day. He was appointed by Penn, when the Proprietary created the Borough of Chester, October 13, 1701, one of its four Burgesses. In 1703, he was chosen Chief Burgess of the Borough, and is believed to have been the first person holding that office. He was one of the Justices of Chester county, afterwards one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the Province; a member of the Provincial Council, and a member of the General Assembly. He and his brother-in-law, James Sandilands, the younger, were the principal promoters of the building of St. Paul's church. He died previously to May 2, 1720, for his will was probated at New Castle, Del., at the date last given. He left six children surviving him, four sons and two daughters.

John Yeates, the third son of Jasper and Catharine Yeates, was born at Chester, March 1, 1705. He inherited from his father the "dwelling house" at Chester, with the "boulting" wharf, gardens and lots near the same town, "bought of Jonas Sandilands





and Edward Henneston." He was a shipping merchant, and resided for a time in the islands of Barbadoes, and afterwards in Philadelphia, where he acquired considerable real estate. Later in life he sustained large pecuniary losses in business ventures, and through the influence of friends, in 1764 was appointed Comptroller of Customs, at Pocomoke, Maryland. He died there the following year. Under date of September 4, 1733, John Yeates and Elizabeth (Sidbotham,) his wife, conveyed the mansion house and lot, of which I am speaking, to Joseph Parker, as well as other lands in Chester.

Joseph Parker was a nephew of the noted and eccentric Quaker preacher, John Salkeld. He was a native of Cumberland, England, and in 1714, at the age of twenty-five, came to the Province and settled at Chester, to be near his uncle. He entered the office of David Lloyd, and after Lloyd's death, he succeeded him as Register and Recorder of Chester county. In 1724 he was Prothonotary of the Courts, and in 1758 he was commissioned a Justice of the Peace, a position of much dignity in Colonial days. In 1730, he married Mary, daughter of James Ladd, of Gloucester county, New Jersey. His wife died the following year, leaving one child, a daughter, Mary. Joseph Parker died May 21, 1766.

Mary Parker, born April 21, 1731, at Chester, to whom the Logan House descended, was married to Charles Norris, of Philadelphia, in the old Quaker Meeting House, on Market street, 6th mo., 21, 1759. Her husband died January 15, 1766, and she returned to Chester and resided in the parental mansion until her death, December 4, 1799. She was the mother of three sons and one daughter, Deborah, to whom by will, she devised the Logan House.

Deborah Norris was born in Philadelphia, October 19, 1761, and was a small child when her widowed mother returned to Chester. She was married to Dr. George Logan, a grandson of James Logan, Penn's Secretary and intimate personal friend, September 6, 1781, and went to reside at the Logan family seat, Stenton, until her death, February 2, 1839. Deborah Logan was a woman of much literary ability, and a historian of great attainments. Indeed her remarkable store of antiquarian information justly entitled her to the appellation of "The Female Historian of the Colonial Times." She had mingled freely with the leading spirits of the Revolutionary period, and her cousin, Charles Thomson, the first and long con-



fidential Secretary of the Continental Congress, was through life an intimate visitor at her house, and from him she learned much of the inner history of those times. In 1814, Mrs Logan came to the conclusion that the correspondence of William Penn and James Logan contained much valuable information respecting the early history of the Commonwealth, and she began the task of collating, deciphering and copying the manuscripts in her possession, many of the documents being much decayed and difficult to read: but she industriously set herself to work, rising in the winter time before sunrise and at daylight in the summer, for a period of several years. Her manuscripts made eleven large quarto volumes, and formed two clever sized octavo volumes, when published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. John F. Watson, the annalist, obtained many of the interesting items in his popular work, from Mrs Logan. During her ownership of the Logan House, she rented it to Miss Eliza Finch, who kept a school there for several years, which was well attended. Deborah Logan left four sons, to the eldest of whom, Dr. Albanus C. Logan, she devised by will, the old mansion on Second street. March 25, 1842, he conveyed it to Samuel Ulrich, the property having been in the ownership of his family one hundred and nine years. Samuel Ulrich in turn conveyed the property to Hon. John M. Broomall. Mr. Broomall never resided in the old Logan House, but sold the property to Mrs. Rebecca Ross—wife of Captain Richard Ross, deceased—who still owns it.

An important incident somewhat connected with this ancient dwelling, is the fact that the original records of the Upland Court, which have since been published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and are of such importance to the student of our early annals, were found by Deborah Logan, in an old bookcase, which had formerly belonged to her grandfather, Joseph Parker, and which had stood for many years in the Logan House, until it was removed to Stenton. The existence of the document was unknown almost for a century, until accidentally discovered in a secret drawer in this old bookcase.



*The City Hotel.*

On the 10th of December, 1700, James Sandilands, the younger, conveyed the land on the northwest corner of Third street and Edgmont avenue, on which this building was afterwards erected, to David Roberts, and on May 26, 1714, Jonas Sandilands, the brother of James, and Mary, his wife, confirmed the tract of ground to Roberts reserving, however, a yearly ground rent of three shillings to his heirs. I believe the building was erected by David Roberts shortly after his purchase from James Sandilands. However that may be, it was certainly built before 1723, for in a deed from David Roberts and Susanna, his wife, to Ruth Hoskins, widow of Sheriff John Hoskins, dated the 19th and 20th days of August of that year, the structure is mentioned and described in the indenture. The hotel at that time was kept by Aubrey Bevan, and designated as the "Pennsylvania Arms," for in the will of Ruth Hoskins, dated July 3, 1739, she devised the premises to her granddaughter, Ruth Mather, daughter of John and Mary (Hoskins) Mather, as "the house and lot where Aubrey Bevan now lives and commonly known by the name of Pennsylvania Arms." There appears to be some contradiction in the record, for by lease and release dated March 5 and 6, 1738, Ruth Hoskins conveyed the property to her son-in-law, John Mather. He was a prominent citizen, a Justice of the Peace—an important dignitary in those days—and at the expiration of Bevan's term became the landlord of the house. Bevan thereupon purchased the ground on Market street, and built the Washington House.

Mary Hoskins, who had married John Mather, was a most admirable wife and mother. Her careful training of her daughters is evidenced by the fact that both of them became the wives of distinguished men, and are alluded to by writers of acknowledged position on several occasions, for their personal excellence and womanly worth.

Ruth Mather, to whom the property was devised by her grandmother, married Charles Thomson, one of the most noted men in our national annals. He was a native of Ireland, and during all the difficulties with the mother country was an ardent Whig. He



was the first Secretary of the Continental Congress of 1774, and continued in that office during the long struggle of the Revolution. It was he who first read the Declaration of Independence to the people from the steps of the old hall wherein that document was signed. In recognition of the faithful discharge of his duties, he was chosen to bear to Washington the intelligence of the latter's nomination to the Presidency of the United States. Of him, John Adams, in his diary writes: "Charles Thomson is the Sam. Adams of Philadelphia, the life of the cause of liberty." He retired from public office and during his latter days translated the Septuagint, which was published in four volumes, in 1808. He died in Lower Merion, Montgomery county, in 1824, in his ninety-fifth year.

Ruth Thomson died without children surviving her, and by the will of John Mather, May 28, 1768, he devised the premises to his daughter, Ruth, and his son-in-law, Charles Jackson: and in the event of the death of Ruth, without children, then to his granddaughter, Mary Jackson. He mentions the tenancy of Valentine Weaver, and named his daughters, Jane Jackson and Ruth Thomson, as his executors. Jane alone took out letters testamentary. Charles Thomson, after the death of Ruth, his wife, without children, March 5, 1785, released to Mary Jackson all his right and title in the premises, and Mary Jackson, March 5, 1785, conveyed the estate to John Harper, who was then in occupancy of the hotel.

Tradition tells us that so extreme was his opposition to the proposed removal of the county seat to West Chester, that he collected and commanded the armed force which marched from Chester to demolish the partly-built Court House and Jail at the Turk's Head, during the summer of 1785. The author of "Lament over Chester's Mother," refers to Major John Harper thus:

Cries little Jack, the youngest son,  
Who just began to crawl—  
"If mamma lives, I soon shall run;  
If not, I soon shall fall.

"Oh! may Jack Hannum quickly die—  
And die in grievous pain—  
Be sent into eternity  
That mamma may remain.





" May all his projects fall, likewise—  
That we may live again !"  
Then every one rolled up his eyes,  
And cried aloud, " Amen !"

After the county seat was removed to West Chester, Major Harper, believing that the sun of Chester's prosperity had set, never to rise again, emigrated to the new local capitol, and became the landlord of the Turk's Head Hotel there. That old tavern, which displayed the head of the Grand Turk on its sign, from which it took its name, continued to be a public house until 1854, when it was enlarged and used as a seminary for young ladies. At the present time it is used as a hotel as of yore

Harper having made default in the payment of the mortgage on the property, suit was brought by the executor of Mary Jackson, deceased, and on August 1, 1788, Ezekiel Leonard, Sheriff, deeded the property to her executor, Dr. David Jackson, of Philadelphia. Who was the landlord of the old house at this time I have not learned, but Dr. Jackson and Susanna, his wife, conveyed the property by deed, dated January 14, 1793, to Matthias Kerlin, Jr., of Trenton, New Jersey.

Matthias Kerlin, Jr., was the brother of William Kerlin, the owner and host of the Washington House, and subsequently returned to Delaware county to reside. He seems to have retired from business at the date of Jackson's deed to him, for he is designated as "gentleman," meaning one living on the income from investments. March 30, 1793, Matthias Kerlin, Jr., and Sarah, his wife, conveyed the property to William Pierce, of Lower Chichester, gentleman. Pierce had married Mary, the then widow of John Dennis, by whom she had a daughter, Hannah Dennis, and in order to provide for her and to contribute to the education and maintenance of Hannah Dennis, etc., Pierce and his wife made a deed, August 13, 1793, in trust to Eliphaz Daizey and Matthias Kerlin, Jr., for the purpose therein stated, but, by deed of revocation, dated December 16, 1797, the trusts were declared null and void. William Pierce died previously to March 1799, for his widow Mary executed a mortgage on the property at that time, and recites that in his will, dated August 9, 1798, he had devised the estate to her. Mary Pierce a third time entered into the marriage relation, for on



the 27th day of February, 1802, David Coats, of Philadelphia, and Mary, his wife—late Mary Pierce, she being the late widow and the sole devisee and executrix named in the last will of William Pierce—conveyed the premises to Abraham See, of Saint George's Hundred, Delaware, and he in turn, March 22, 1803, sold the property to Edward Engle, who kept the hotel until he died—about 1810—and his widow, Mary Engle, continued the business until the years 1832 or 1833, when she retired and leased the premises to John J. Thurlow. The ancient hostelry under Mrs. Engle's supervision was the fashionable and popular hotel of the Borough. In 1824, when Gen. Lafayette was the guest of Chester, the First City Troop, of Philadelphia, was quartered at her house, then known as the Eagle Tavern; for in a description of a journey from old Ireland to Chester, written in verse by Philip Sexton, who lived at Squire Eyre's, on Edgmont avenue, during the early part of this century, he referred to this hotel thus :

" If you stand on the bridge  
 And look to the east,  
 You'll there see an eagle,  
 As big as a beast.  
 Call at this tavern,  
 Without any dread ;  
 You'll there get chicken,  
 Good mutton and bread."

Mrs. Engle was the mother of the late Rear Admiral Frederick Engle, who died in 1866, and of Capt Isaac E. Engle, of the Merchant Service, who died in 1844. Her daughter Mary married the late Hon. Samuel Edwards, a member of the bar and representative in Congress from this district, from 1819-21, and again from 1825-27, who died, leaving surviving him, his son, Henry B. Edwards, Esq., a member of the bar, and at this writing a leading citizen of Chester, and a daughter, Mary Engle Edwards, who intermarried with Edward Fitzgerald Beale, at that time Lieutenant in the Navy, and noted for his celebrated ride across Mexico with dispatches from Commodore Stockton, during our war with that country, and subsequently prominent before the nation as Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and in exploring expeditions, constructing public highways, and in surveys for projected railroads. In



1860, he was appointed Surveyor General of California, and under General Grant's second administration he was United States Minister to Austria. Gen. Beale is one of the largest land owners in the world, his estate in California comprising two hundred thousand acres of land.

Mary Engle's other daughter, Abby, married John Kerlin, Esq., a member of the Delaware county bar, and for many years President of the Bank of Delaware County. Mrs. Kerlin now resides with her nephew, H. B. Edwards, Esq., in this city. Her son, Frederick E. Kerlin, died in California over twenty odd years ago, and Capt. Charles Kerlin, a well-known merchant captain, now retired from service, lives in New Jersey.

Mrs. Engle was succeeded in business by John J. Thurlow, about 1833, and I quote from Martin's History of Chester, the following graphic description of the old hotel in its palmiest days as a stopping place for one of the lines of stages that then passed through Chester for Baltimore, Washington and the South. He says:

"How well I remember 'Thurlow's,' in the days of its busy greatness; well I remember how, when I was a boy, I lingered near its hospitable doors to see the handsome horses of the Reeside, Stockton & Stokes, Murdeck & Sharp, and Janvier's rival lines of stage coaches changed; the smoking steeds detached by active hostlers, and the new relay of well-groomed horses substituted, and saw the 'Stage driver,' an important man in those days, with his great coat of many capes and long whip; the well dressed travelers sauntering about talking and smoking after their meal, waiting for the stage. Oft I have peeped into the small, clean bar-room, in the centre of which stood a large coal stove (in winter) in a large sand box, that served as a huge spittoon. In one corner of the room stood a semi-circular bar, with its red railings reaching to the ceiling, into whose diminutive precincts the jolly landlady could scarcely get her buxom person, while her husband with his velvet-reen shooting coat, with its large buttons and its many pockets, excited my intense admiration. At his heels there were always two or three handsome setter dogs, of the finest breed and well trained. Sometimes I got a glimpse of the south-west room. This was the parlor; back of it was a room where travelers wrote their letters; and back of the bar was a cozy little room, mine hostess' sanctum, into which only special friends were admitted. All these are now one large American bar-room.

"In reading accounts of the old English inns of coaching days, my mind involuntarily reverts to 'Thurlow's,' for there on the walls were hanging the quaint old coaching and hunting prints imported



from England, and around the house was 'Boots,' and the 'Hostler,' and the 'pretty waiting maid with rosy cheeks,' all from Old England. The horses are all hitched, the passengers are 'all aboard,' the driver has taken his seat, (the guard is blowing his horn, having taken one inside,) is gathering up his many reins; now he feels for his whip, flourishes it over his four-in-hand, making a graceful curve with its lash, taking care not to touch his horses; but does it with a report like a rifle shot, the hostlers jump aside, and with a bound and a rush, the coach is off for Washington, or Philadelphia, carrying perchance within it Clay, Webster or Calhoun. And of a winter's evening when I have stolen out from home, I have passed the 'Tavern,' and seen seated around its cheerful fire the magnates of the town, telling stories of other days (as I now could tell their names.) And sometimes peeping through the green blinds, I have seen a quiet game of whist going on; perhaps it was 'all fours,' or else a game of checkers or dominoes."

Mr. Thurlow retired from business about 1840, and was succeeded by Maurice W. Deshong, who kept the house for a few years and was followed by Major Samuel A. Price, who continued the business until about 1853, when the late George Wilson became its host. After a few years Mr. Wilson retired, and was in turn succeeded by Lewis A. Sweetwood. The death of Mrs. Mary Engle, in 1870, at the advanced age of 94 years, compelled a sale of the hotel and other property, by order of Orphans' Court, to settle her estate, and in that year William Ward, as trustee to make the sale, conveyed the hotel property to Jonathan Pennell, who in turn, the same year, sold the premises to Paul Klotz, the present owner, who has made important additions and improvements to the eastern end of the ancient building.

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### *The Washington House.*

The title to the ancient hostelry on Market street, known for almost a century to the denizens of Chester as the Washington Hotel, extends back to the Proprietary, for by patent dated May





31, 1686, the commissioners of William Penn conveyed to James Sandelands, in fee, twenty acres of land in Chester, and on a part of this tract the hotel buildings were subsequently erected. This property descended to Jonas Sandelands, in the distribution of his father's estate, and was by him sold to John Wright, in 1720, on ground rent, for four shillings lawful money of America, payable on the twenty-fifth day of March of each and every year thereafter, forever. Wright, after holding the premises for seven years, conveyed the land to William Pennell, who in turn sold it to James Trego. The latter died seized of the property, and in 1746 his son James—to whom it had been allotted in proceedings in partition, his mother Elizabeth joining in the deed—conveyed the property to Aubury Bevan. The plot of ground up to this date is believed to have been used as a pasture lot. In the following year Aubury Bevan erected the present hotel building and gave it the title "Pennsylvania Arms," as will be seen by an inspection of his will. He was an active and leading citizen of Chester, and the structure, considering the time when it was built, evidences fully the progressive spirit which controlled his efforts. Aubury Bevan died in 1761, and by will devised this property to his daughter Mary; she, together with her husband, William Forbes, by deed dated April 1, 1772, conveyed the estate to William Kerlin, a wealthy man, as wealth was then regarded, and a fervent Whig during the Revolutionary struggle.

After the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British army, Kerlin named his hostelry "The Washington House," a name it has been continually known by to this day. General Washington often in passing through Chester on his way to and from Mount Vernon to the seat of government in New York and Philadelphia, stopped at this hotel, and on those occasions a certain room, the best in the house, was assigned to his use. The ancient mahogany chairs which stood in the room occupied by the first President, during these visits, are still preserved among the descendants of William Kerlin. He took an active part in the discussion from 1780 to 1786, as to the removal of the county seat to West Chester, and in a doggerel rhyme of that time, entitled "Lament over Chester's Mother," written by Joseph Hickman, an earnest removalist, Kerlin is thus referred to:



" And then poor helpless Billy cries—

' Oh, how shall I be fed ?

What shall I do if mamma dies ?

I cannot work for bread.

These little hands have never wrought.

Oh, how I am oppressed !

For I have never yet done aught.

But hang on mamma's breast."

After the county seat had been finally removed from Chester, he labored energetically to bring about the formation of the present county of Delaware. Kerlin, having purchased the old Court House, Jail and public buildings in this city in 1786, for £415, after the division was made he sold them to Delaware county at a slight advance. He did not remain, however, mine host of the Washington House until his death, for by his will, proved April 29, 1805, he alluded—in his devise to his daughter, Sarah Piper—to "the tavern house" being at that time "in the tenure of Isaac Tucker."

Major Joseph Piper, who held a position in the Philadelphia Custom House, under General Steele, the then collector, after the death of his father-in-law, resigned his office, removed to Chester and kept the Washington House, owned by his wife, until his death in 1827. By tradition, Piper is said to have been a Revolutionary soldier, but as he was only 50 years of age when he died, it is not a supposable case that he could have taken any part in that memorable war. It is related that Major Piper, being in Chester, saw Sarah Odenheimer—formerly Sarah Kerlin—a well-formed, blooming widow, on horseback, and was so impressed with her appearance that he wooed, won and wed her for his wife. After his death his widow continued the business at the hotel for several years, but ultimately becoming weary of it she leased the premises to Evan S. Way, who had formerly kept a tavern in Nether Providence. He was a conspicuous man in the military affairs of the county a half century ago; an officer in the Delaware county troop, and kept the hotel until he was elected Sheriff, in 1837. The house was then rented to Major Samuel A. Price, who was an influential citizen of Chester, having formerly been in the hat business in the ancient Borough. He was a genial gentleman, who is yet remembered by many of our old residents: an earnest politician, and in 1834 was



elected Sheriff of the county. In early life he was noted for his manly beauty. An interesting item respecting the old hostelry during Major Price's occupancy, was related in *The Delaware County Advocate*, several years ago. The article stated that General Harrison, in 1840, after he had received the Whig nomination for the Presidency, was returning from Washington, accompanied by a number of gentlemen from New York, stopped for dinner at the Washington House, and while there received the congratulations of the citizens of Chester. After dinner had been served, the cloth was drawn, wine, as usual on such occasions, was placed on the table, and several toasts were drunk. It was observed that Harrison drank water, and being thereupon pressed to take wine, he rose and said :

“Gentlemen, I have refused twice to partake of the wine cup, that should have been sufficient: though you press the cup to my lips not a drop shall pass their portals. I made a resolve when I started in life that I would avoid strong drink, and I have never broken it. I am one of a class of seventeen young men who graduated, and the other sixteen fill drunkard's graves, all through the habit of social wine drinking. I owe all my health, happiness and prosperity to that resolution. Will you urge me now?”

The circumstance and remarks made by Harrison were related by one of the gentlemen present nearly forty years afterwards. Hence the language used on that occasion may not be accurately reported, although the substance is doubtless correctly rendered.

Sarah Piper, by her will, proved September 13, 1841, directed that “the tavern house and thereto belonging, be sold within one year after my decease.” In compliance with that request, although there was a longer interval than one year, her executors sold, April 2, 1844, the premises to Henry L. Powell, who in turn, October 11, of the same year, conveyed it to Edward E. Flavill. Mr. Flavill conducted the hotel as a temperance house, and Samuel West, an earnest temperance advocate, employed Edward Hicks, a Quaker artist, to paint a swinging sign—one side presenting a delineation of Penn's Landing at Chester, and the other Penn's treaty (?) with the Indians, which he presented to the landlord. This old sign is still in good preservation and owned by the present proprietor of the Washington House, Henry Abbott. The business proving unremunerative, Flavill sold the property to Thomas Clyde, January 1, 1849. Mr. Clyde had formerly kept an extensive country store at the



north-east corner of Market Square, the building now owned and occupied by John C Williams and the eating house of Mr. Dixon adjoining, having been erected by him for his dwelling and store. He was also largely interested in quarries on Ridley creek. Mr. Clyde continued the hotel as a temperance house with indifferent success for over nine years, when he conveyed the property, April 12, 1856, to John G. Dyer. Mr. Dyer had formerly been a clerk in the store of the late Joshua P. Eyre, and subsequently had carried on the dry goods and grocery business in Philadelphia, Chester and Rockdale, was Custom officer at the Lazaretto and was connected with the late James Campbell, in the manufacture of cotton goods at Leiperville. He was a man of fine conversational powers, possessing a ready, copious vocabulary and pleasing address, which particularly fitted him for the business of keeping a hotel. He died October 26, 1881. In 1868, John G. Dyer conveyed the estate to Samuel A. Dyer, and he, June 1, 1871, sold it to Henry Abbott, who still owns the property and is the popular host of the Washington House at this time. Both of these gentlemen are well known, active and influential citizens of Chester.

The ground rent spoken of herein, created by Jonas Sandelands, in his deed to John Wright, January 21, 1720, has been fully discharged and extinguished of record.

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### *The Columbia House.*

The land on which this ancient building stands, was included in the patent dated May 31, 1686, whereby the commissioners of William Penn conveyed to James Sandelands, the elder, in fee, twenty acres of ground in Chester, and is a part of the same tract on which the Washington House was built. The land descended to Jonas Sandilands in the distribution of his father's estate. Jonas Sandelands died subsequent to 1721, for at that time he held the





office of Coroner of Chester county, and his widow, Mary, married before 1731 Arthur Shields. August 31, 1732, Arthur Shields and Mary, his wife, the administrators of Jonas Sandlands' estate, conveyed a tract of land containing over two acres to William Trehorn, subject to a yearly ground rent of five shillings, to be paid to the heirs of Jonas Sandlands. Trehorn and Catharine, his wife, sold the land, November 14, 1733, to Richard Barry, who built the present building previous to December 7, 1736, and lived therein, for at the last mentioned date he mortgaged the premises, and it is stated in that instrument that he had "erected a new brick messuage upon the lot." Barry, who kept the house as a tavern, conveyed the estate to John Hanley, who had in the meanwhile married the widow of William Trehorn. She died previous to 1764, and Hanley married again, for September 13, of that year, he and Eleanor, his wife, transferred the hotel to James Coultas. The latter and wife conveyed it, August 6, 1766, to George Gray, in trust, and he sold it to George Harkins, subject to a mortgage of £250 given to Henry Hale Graham, but no deed was made to Harkins, and he, seeming to be in possession, the premises were taken in execution as his property and sold by Jesse Maris, Sheriff, November 6, 1769, to Robert Moore, subject to the mortgage above mentioned, and £255 due the estate of James Coultas, deceased. Robert Moore endorsed, April 28, 1770, on the back of the Sheriff's deed, that he conveyed the premises to Nicholas Barnard, who on paying £250 due Coultas' estate, to George Gray, the latter, May 5, 1770, made a deed to Barnard, subject to the mortgage held by Graham.

Mary Withy, the widow of James Withy, an English officer, and a pensioner of the British government for £60 per annum, purchased the hotel, July 18, 1771, and during the time she was hostess it was reported to be the best kept tavern in America, and as such is frequently referred to in publications of that day. This reputation brought to her house numbers of prominent personages when journeying between the seat of Government and points south of Chester. She appears to have realized a snug fortune and must have contemplated the abandonment of the business several years before she actually retired from it, for during the late decade of the eighteenth century, she purchased the Lamokin farm—now belonging to the estate of Abram R. Perkins, deceased—and made



the eastern addition to the old house. Her son, Samuel, maintained the most aristocratic notions, and became very unpopular with the mechanics and workmen by declaring that people in their condition should be restricted from dressing in the same fabrics as used by their more pecuniarily fortunate neighbors, so that the wealthy and the laboring citizens could be designated by their apparel.

When Lafayette was wounded at the battle of Brandywine, he was brought to Chester, and his wounds dressed by Mary (Gorman) Lyons. In a letter written by the late Joseph Weaver, Jr., at one time Sheriff of the county, dated April 3, 1843, and addressed to Hon. Calvin Blythe, he states that it was at Mrs. Withy's tavern, (now the Columbia House,) where the wound was cared for. Mr. John C. Beatty, however, locates the incident as having happened in the old Barber House, an account of which will be found elsewhere. On September 1, 1796, Mary Withy sold the premises to Major William Anderson, who at the date of his purchase had been landlord of the hotel for some time, for it is stated that he had built a frame summer house and an ice house, while the property was in his possession as tenant.

Major William Anderson was a native of Virginia, who when only fifteen years of age, had joined the Continental army, serving therein five years, and was present at the siege of Yorktown and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He married Elizabeth Dixon, whose personal appearance in early womanhood was so attractive that she and her two sisters were termed "the three beauties of Virginia." The precise time when Anderson came to Chester I have failed to learn, but I presume shortly after the close of the war. While keeping the hotel he is said to have been elected to Congress, an assertion I much doubt, notwithstanding the late John K. Zeilin—in an obituary of Mr. Anderson, published by him in the *Upland Union*, December 22, 1829—says that he was a member of that body, and Martin, in his History of Chester, states that he served eighteen years as representative from this district. The name of William Anderson does not appear in the list of members of Congress of Pennsylvania, extending back to 1789, as officially published in "Smull's Hand Book." In 1803, he built the old Anderson mansion on Welsh street, but still kept the hotel for Richard S. Smith, in an interesting sketch of a ride from Philadelphia to New Castle,



in the year 1808, published in Martin's History of Chester, says :

“ I got to Chester about one o'clock, A. M., and stopped at the tavern kept by Major Anderson, and got my horse fed. The hotel dinner was over, but the Major asked me to dine with his family. At the table I noticed quite a handsome young lady, who read a novel all the time we were at dinner. She was the Major's daughter, and afterwards became the wife of the celebrated Commodore David Porter.”

Major Anderson was, however, Associate Judge of the Courts of Delaware county, and at the time of his death, December 15, 1829, he held a position in the Custom House in Philadelphia. March 2, 1814, he sold the hotel to Nimrod Maxwell, of Huntingdon, who carried on the business there for several years, when he leased the house to John J. Thurlow, (now a hale and hearty octogenarian, who possesses a rich fund of recollection of the history of Chester and its former residents) who kept it until 1830, when he removed to the National Hotel, at Edgmont avenue and Third street. Maxwell having died insolvent, suit was brought against his executors, and April 12, 1830, Jehu Broomall, Sheriff, sold the estate to the Delaware County Bank, which corporation held the title for several years, during which time Samuel Lamplugh was landlord. March 13, 1833, the Bank sold the property to Thomas Ewing, and Eliza, his wife. During the latter ownership, the hotel was kept by John Richards, the late Prothonotary, and he was succeeded by Frank Lloyd, who, still living near Darby, loves to recount the pranks and sports of the olden time, when woe awaited a stranger at the hands of the madcap roytserers of the ancient Borough. Thomas Ewing and wife conveyed the estate, January 17, 1839, to Captain Elisha S. Howes. He was a veritable “ salt,” who had earned his title as master of merchant ships, and he kept it for several years, until he relinquished it to embark in the grocery business, and March 27, 1848, sold it to James Campbell, who, after making extensive repairs to the building, conveyed it, March 13, 1854, to John Harrison Hill, who had kept the tavern at Leiperville. The property being sold by the Sheriff, was purchased May 27, 1856, by Mark B. Hannum, who conveyed it, April 1, 1857, to Mrs. Elizabeth Appleby, who now owns it. Under the able management of the present landlord, Thomas Appleby, the old hostelry has in a measure regained its prestige of nearly a century ago.



It might be interesting to some of our readers to mention, that tradition states that one of the owners of the old building, in early times, had an inmate of his family, who was a violent maniac, and at that time, as there was no place for the detention of persons thus afflicted, he was compelled to keep the lunatic in his own house. To prevent his escaping, and to render it impossible for him to reach the windows, a large and strong iron ring was placed in the floor of one of the upper rooms, and to this ring the deranged person was made fast by a heavy chain or rope, and for many years was kept confined in that apartment. Madame Rumor, as is often the case, may have located the incidents in the wrong place. I do not vouch for its truth.

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### *The Steamboat Hotel.*

Grace Lloyd, by her will, dated the 6th day of fourth month, 1760, devised unto her cousin, Francis Richardson, of Philadelphia, after certain specific devises of lands and bequests of personal property to other parties named therein, "all the rest, residue and remainder of my lands, plantations, lots of ground, rents, tenements, hereditaments and real estate whatsoever and wheresoever." This Francis Richardson entered into possession of the real estate thus devised to him, and began very extensive improvements. He erected between the years 1761 and 1770, the substantial building at the north-east corner of Market and Front streets, now known as the Steamboat Hotel, for a dwelling for his family, built extensive warehouses and a wharf at the site of the present upper Government pier, which wharf stood until the year 1816, and was known as "Richardson's wharf," and made preparations for a large business as a shipper of grain and other produce. While he was making these improvements he was remonstrated with by many of his friends for his outlay of money in the undertaking, and he was much incensed





at what he believed to be their short-sightedness. Unfortunately for his enterprise, the brewing troubles with the mother country worked disastrously for his speculations, and resulted in entirely ruining him. His daughter, Deborah, was married at Chester, June 10, 1773, to Joseph Mifflin, and the same year Deborah, Hannah and John, together with their father, became members of Chester Friends' Meeting. Hannah married Samuel Fairlamb; Grace married Isaac Potts, and Frances married Clement Biddle. The four daughters of Francis Richardson were much admired for their beauty, and the exquisite transparencies of their complexion was so remarkable that the gallants of that day reported that, when they drank a glass of wine, "it might be seen trickling down their fair throats." An elder son, who was born in Philadelphia, and named after his father Francis, we are told by the Annalist, Watson, "was a person of great personal beauty," a statement Mrs. Deborah Logan fully corroborates. About 1770 this son went to London, having formed a passionate longing for military life from associating with the British officers in Philadelphia, and secured a commission in the King's Life Guard, of which crack regiment he subsequently became Colonel. His brother John, who was a Friend, when the Revolutionary War broke out, was quite active in military movements, and for that cause was disowned by Chester Meeting in 1775. Francis Richardson died subsequently to the year 1779, for in April of that year he was the lessee of a frame store house on the east side of Market, south of Fourth street, which afterwards became the property of Dr. Job Terrill, and now of Mrs. John O. Deshong. He died insolvent, and his real estate, dwelling and warehouses were sold after his death by Ezekiel Leonard, High Sheriff, July 2, 1787, to Robert Eaglesfield Griffith, a lawyer of Philadelphia, who, on May 4, 1789, conveyed the estate to Davis Bevan.

This Davis Bevan was of Welsh descent, and was one of the most conspicuous characters in our city's annals. He was married to Agnes Coupland, daughter of David Coupland, and was thirty-seven years of age when the battles of Lexington and Concord were fought. He was commissioned Captain in the Continental Army, and served faithfully throughout the war. Martin, in his History of Chester, furnishes the following pleasing incidents in the life of Captain Davis Bevan:—



“ He was with Washington at the battle of Brandywine, in 1777, and after the defeat of the American forces he carried dispatches from General Washington to the President of the Continental Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia, announcing the result of the engagement. A gentleman by the name of Sharp, accompanied Capt. Bevan. Proceeding some distance from the army they observed they were pursued by a party of British light horse. Mr. Sharp was not so well mounted as Captain Bevan, who had a thoroughbred mare of great action and endurance. Finding that the light horse were gaining on them constantly, and that Mr. Sharp would persist in urging his nag up the hills in spite of his advice to the contrary, Capt. Bevan said: ‘Sharp, if we keep together our capture is certain, therefore, I think you had better take the next cross road that we come to, and I will continue on. They will follow me, but I am confident they cannot capture me.’ This proposal was agreed to, and as soon as Mr. Sharp had turned off, Capt. Bevan gave the rein to his mare, and his pursuers soon finding themselves distanced, gave up the chase. When Capt. Bevan reached the Schuylkill during the night, he found, owing to a heavy freshet, the ferry boat was either unable to run, or had been carried down the river. A boatman, however, rowed him over, while his mare swam by the side of the boat. He landed safely on the Philadelphia shore, and replacing his saddle, he hastened to deliver his dispatches. This officer had various adventures, and often ran great risks while the American army was at Valley Forge. On one occasion he went to visit his wife at the house of a Mr. Vernon, where she had come from Philadelphia, for the purpose of seeing him. Mr. Vernon’s house was but a short distance from the British lines, and it was therefore necessary that considerable caution should be exercised to prevent capture by the numerous parties of British foragers scouring the country. Mr. Vernon’s sons were posted around the house at convenient points for observation to give warning of the approach of enemies, and Capt. Bevan went to bed. About the middle of the night one of the boys came to his room, and informed him that a mounted party were approaching the house, and he had better prepare to take his departure. Being rather an obstinate man he did not seem to believe the report, but presently another picket came in and told him that he would certainly be captured if he remained any longer. He sprang out of bed, hurried on his regimentals and reached the back door just as the British party knocked at the front. He got to the stable, where he found his mare already saddled, and leading her out and mounting, he leaped the farm-yard enclosure, and being perfectly familiar with the country he had no difficulty in evading his enemies.

“The crew of the Brigantine ‘Holker’ was enlisted at Chester, by Capt. Davis Bevan, to sail as a privateer. He was Captain of Marines. The ‘Holker’ was commanded by Capt. Matthew Law-



ler, his son-in-law, and captured some valuable prizes, one laden with lead, which was invaluable to the army, as at that time the supply for making bullets was about exhausted. Most of the enlistments were made in July, 1779, as appears by the receipt book of Capt Bevan, now in possession of the Delaware County Institute of Science. The bounty paid for a single cruise was from \$50 to \$100, most probably Continental money."

During the Revolutionary War, the house, whose southern gable end, as we know, stood near the river, which at that time was a bold, gravelly shore, was a conspicuous mark: and when the British frigate "Augusta," in 1777, sailed up the Delaware to be sunk afterwards in the attack on Fort Mifflin, her commander, in sheer wantonness, opened fire on the defenseless town. One of the shot shattered the wall in the gable end towards the river, and the owner repaired the breach by placing a circular window in the opening thus made. It still remains there.

The house for many years was unproductive; various tenants occupied it, but because of the tradition that shortly after the Revolution a negro named Laban had been killed in the dwelling by a blow with an axe on the head, whose blood was said to have made an indelible stain behind the door where he fell, and whose spirit wandered around the place of his untimely death, they were of a class that could not afford to pay remunerative rent for the premises.

Davis Bevan died March 30, 1818, and in the distribution of his estate the Steamboat Hotel passed to his son, Matthew Lawler Bevan. He, September 27, 1826, sold the property to John Ford, who named it the Steamboat Hotel, and among the attractions to bring custom to this house, he set up a bagatelle table, the first ever owned in Chester. For some time it drew many of the men of the place to the hotel, and so annoying did it prove to the good wives of that day (who were permitted to remain home while the heads of the family were playing the new game) that the women of Chester christened the table "the bag of hell." Ford, too, was excessively jealous of his wife, and frequently became so demonstrative that for days together he locked his better half in one of the upper chambers and would carry her meals to the room, permitting no one to speak with her until his ill humor had expended itself. He seems not to have been successful in the business, for



the property was sold by Jehu Broomall, Sheriff, June 1831, to Samuel Smith. The new owner leased the premises to Welcome D. Niles, for eighteen months, but in the meantime he was making efforts to secure a new tenant. The house, as it was at that time, is described in an advertisement headed "for rent," which appeared in the *Weekly Visitor* of January 29, 1832. It states:

"It is most advantageously located, being but a few yards distant from the landing of the numerous steamboats which ply up and down the river. There are seventeen fine rooms in the building, which are large, airy and very comfortable. The bar-room is fitted up in the neatest manner. A two-story piazza, extending nearly around the house, is sufficient to accommodate nearly 100 persons to dine, and affords a delightful promenade, and an extensive view on the Delaware, the Lazaretto, etc. There is stabling on the premises sufficient for 20 horses, with a fine shed attached. A spring of excellent water on the premises and a good garden, containing three acres of excellent land."

The hotel was shortly afterwards rented to Henry Rease, who will be remembered by many of our elder residents, as one of the people from Chester, saved from death when the steamboat *William Penn* caught fire, March 4, 1834, off the Point House, near Philadelphia, and was burned to the water's edge. After Rease's term had expired the property was leased to Crossman Lyons, a well known citizen of Chester, the son of a Revolutionary soldier, who when a young man had joined Washington's army in its retreat through New Jersey, had followed the fortunes of the Continental troops through the war until its close, when he settled in Chester and married Mary Gorman, a woman of extraordinary nerve, whose busy hands dressed many of those wounded at the battle of Brandywine, who were brought to this city for attention. She it was who waited on and dressed the wounds of Marquis de Lafayette, on the evening of that disastrous day. Crossman Lyons, October 12, 1844, purchased the property, and a few years subsequent he leased it to Howard Roberts, who, after keeping the hotel for about three years, declined to continue the business longer, and Mr. Lyons resumed the post of "mine host" until November 12, 1851, when John Goff, of Philadelphia, purchased the property and became its landlord.

The following year the new proprietor made extensive improvements, laid out the grove as an ice cream garden, built a pavilion,





and among other attractions procured a live black bear, which for several years was one of the features of the premises, for among his other accomplishments, Bruin had learned to enjoy a "quiet shifter," and seemed to be perfectly happy when he could take a bottle of porter and let the liquid gurgle down his throat. In the fall of the year 1856, the bear having grown cross, it was determined to kill it, and Mortimer H. Bickley was assigned to shoot the animal, which he did. The tables of many Chester people, for several days thereafter, were garnished with bear meat in every style in which the cooks could prepare it. Mr. Goff died in August, 1857, and on December 13, 1859, his administrator, Hon. John Larkin, Jr., sold the estate to his widow, Mary Ann Goff, who still owns it. John Goff, the present landlord, has recently had many improvements made to the ancient building, which still bears about it the evidence that it was erected by a wealthy man of the Colonial days, whose genial hospitality gave open-hearted welcome to his friends in the "Auld Lang Syne."

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### *The Lafayette House.*

The house at the southwest corner of Third street and Edgmont avenue, is one of the oldest buildings in our city, and in a deed from James Sandelands, the younger, September 10, 1700, to Stephen Jackson, the property is described as a house and lot, thus showing that the structure antedates that instrument. Stephen Jackson, on June 17, of the following year, transferred the property to John Worrilow, and he in turn, conveyed it, August 29, 1704, to Philip Yarnall. The latter, after retaining title to the estate for 29 years, sold the dwelling and lot to John Mather, September 26, 1733, who at the time of his purchase was in occupation of the house and kept a tavern there. After the death of Ruth Hoskins, who in her will dated July 3, 1739, devised the present City Hotel to her grand-



daughter Ruth, daughter of John Mather—the latter took possession of the larger building directly opposite to that he had occupied, although he does not seem to have made use of the dwelling at that time as a hotel. He, however, did not part with the house he purchased from Yarnall, but leased it to James Mather, perhaps his brother, since John Mather named his only son James, probably for the person mentioned. That James Mather kept the tavern here in 1746 we know, for he was one of the number of innkeepers who petitioned the Legislature for payment of certain claims, more fully referred to in the account of the Black Bear Inn, and in the Journal of William Black, who was the Notary of the Commissioners appointed by Governor Gooch, of Virginia, to unite with those from the colonies of Pennsylvania and Maryland, to treat with the Iroquois, or six nations of Indians, in reference to the land west of the Allegheny mountains. In describing the journey of the Commissioners from Virginia and Maryland to Philadelphia, under date of Saturday, May 25, 1744, he records:

“Nine miles from Wilmington, and at the line dividing New Castle and Chester counties, were waiting the High Sheriff, Coroner and under Sheriff of Chester county, who conducted us to Chester Town, six miles further, where we arrived a few minutes before nine at night, and put up at Mr. James Mathew, (Mather) the most considerable house in the town; most of the company being very much fatigued with the day’s ride being very warm, they inclin’d for beds soon after they alighted, and tho’ for my part I was not very much tir’d, yet I agreed to hug the pillow with the rest.”

The next entry in his Journal, doubtless after refreshing slumber, is headed “Chester in Pennsylvania, Sunday, the 26,” and he records his doings in, and impression of, Chester, of that day, thus:

“This morning, by the time the sun return’d to Enlighten My Bed Chamber, I got up with a Design to take a view of the town. It is not so large as Wilmington, neither are the Buildings so large in General, the Town stands on a Mouth of a Creek of the same name, running out the Delaware and has a very large wooden Bridge over it, in the middle of the Town, the Delaware is reckon’d three miles over at this place, and is a very good Road for Shipping; the Court House and Prison is two tolerable large Buildings of Stone, there are in the Town a Church dedicated to St. Paul, the Congregation are after the manner of the Church of England; A Quaker Meeting and a Sweed’s “(?)” Church; about 10 of the Clock, forenoon, Comm’rs and us of their Levee went to St. Paul’s; where we heard a Sermon Preach’d by the Reverend Mr. Backhouse, on the 16th Chapt.



of St. Luke, 30 & 31st Verses, from this some of us paid a Visit to the Friends' who were then in Meeting, but as it happened to be a Silent One, after we had sat about 15 min., they Shook hands and we parted, from this Return'd to our Inn, where we had a very good Dianer, and about 4 in the Evening Set out for Philadelphia, Accompanied by the Shiffs, Coroner, and several Gentlemen of the Town, past thro' Darby a Town 7 miles from Chester, Standing on a creek or the same name and at a Stone Bridge about half a mile further, was met by the Sheriff, Coroner, and Sub-Sheriff of Philadelphia County Here the Company from Chester took their leave of Us and return'd."

James Mather afterwards purchased the ground where National Hall stands, with the building thereon, which William and Joshua P. Eyre tore down to make room for the present structure. Here he continued the occupation of an innkeeper.

In his will, May 28, 1768, John Mather devised it to his daughter Jane. She first married Dr. Paul Jackson, who, dying in 1767, the following year she married Dr. David Jackson. The latter and his wife, February 27, 1775, conveyed the property to James Sparks, a merchant of Philadelphia. There is no evidence to show that Dr. David Jackson ever resided there, and, as he was a physician in Philadelphia, the probabilities are that he never personally occupied the dwelling, and the same is true of Sparks, notwithstanding he owned it nine years. Who dwelt therein, I have failed to learn, but May 13, 1784, Sparks sold it to William Kerlin, who made it his residence, and dying seized of the estate, in his will, November 28, 1804, devised it to his wife Catharine, for life, with remainder to his son, John Kerlin. This son John owned the property at his death, and on July 5, 1817, his executors, William Kerlin and Jonathan Pennell, sold it to James Chadwick, who, in turn, dying seized of the property, it descended to his only child, John Chadwick, subject to the dower of his widow, Rebecca. John Chadwick, while owning the property, purchased two frame buildings at Marcus Hook, and placing them on scows, had them floated up to Chester, where he erected them on the eastern end of his property on Third street. Both of these houses are now owned by the estate of Henry Abbott, Sr., deceased. This was considered a marvellous feat in those days. John, however, January 15, 1829, conveyed his title to his mother, and, October 7, 1830, Rebecca Chadwick sold the estate to Charles Alexander Lodomus. The latter was French



by birth, and at the outbreak of the French Revolution of 1793, his mother, (being of an aristocratic family,) was compelled to flee in the night time to Germany with her children. Charles was at that time a lad of ten years. All the family remained in the land of refuge, and after the battle of Jena, October 14, 1805, Charles A. Ladomus was in Berlin when the defeated Prussian army fled through that city. When the French occupied it, he acted as an interpreter for Napoleon. He subsequently made a tour of Europe on foot, which, as he practiced his occupation as a watchmaker in the meantime, consumed twelve years. About 1828, he came to the United States, married Catharine Schey, a widow, and settled in Chester, where he followed the business of a jeweler and watchmaker in the old building under consideration, until several years before his death, December 30, 1857, in his 76th year. By his will, December 15, 1853, he devised his estate to his wife for life, and at her death to his three sons, Jacob, Lewis and Joseph, and to his grandson Charles Burkheimer, the only child of his daughter Rosanna, in equal shares. The title to the property is still held by the sons, their mother's life estate having determined, April 10, 1874, at which time she died, aged 84 years.

After Mr. Ladomus' death, the old building was occupied by James Chadwick, who did a large business therein. He accumulated considerable means, but his purchase of the lots at Fourth and Market streets, and the erection of Lincoln Hall, in 1866, resulted in financial ruin. Chadwick was succeeded by B. Bauer, who kept a clothing store there until 1875, when the house was rented to Caleb P. Clayton, and after nearly a century had gone by, became once more a public house.





*The Black Bear Inn.*

The hipped-roof house at the north-east corner of Third and Penn streets, was erected early in the last century, for in the will of John Salkeld, Sr., February 17, 1733-4, five years before his death, he devised the premises to his son Thomas, and designated it as "the house and lot wherein my son-in-law, Anthony Shaw, now dwells." How long Shaw lived there after the date mentioned I have not learned, but in 1746 it was kept as a public house by John Salkeld, the younger, for in that year he, among other innkeepers, presented a petition to the Legislature, asking compensation for the "diet of Capt Shannon's company of soldiers," quartered here during the early part of the French war. At this time he was a tenant of his brother Thomas, for the latter, in his will June 21, 1749, after making specific devises of other lands, gave the residue of his estate to his brother John Salkeld. The latter, by his will, December 14, 1775, gave an eighth part of his estate, which was large, to his daughter Sarah. He died early in 1776, for his will was probated January 29, of the same year. In the distribution of her father's estate, the Black Bear Inn became her portion. Sarah Salkeld had married George Gill, an Englishman, several years before her father's death, for in the latter's will he leaves £10 to his grandson, John Gill, and in all probability she was then landlady. George Gill was an outspoken Tory in the Revolutionary struggle, and so ardent was he in the defence of the English army and ministry, that after the battle of Brandywine, at the time the residents of Chester were smarting under the outrages perpetrated on them by the royal troops, he was compelled to leave this neighborhood when the enemy abandoned Philadelphia, and was proclaimed a traitor to the Colonies. When the British forces evacuated New York at the close of the war, Gill followed them to Halifax. Subsequently he returned to Chester, was arrested and thrown into prison, but was discharged therefrom by the Act of Assembly, which, under certain conditions, allowed free pardon to proclaimed traitors to the United Colonies. William Whitehead, in the History of the Borough, published in his Directory of Chester, in 1859, states from information furnished by Mrs. Rebecca



Brobson, then owning and residing in the dwelling, that "at the period in which the inn flourished, the people of Chester made their own malt, and a malt-house stood upon the same lot; this was a brick building, and in a dilapidated condition fifty years," (73 years ago.)

John Gill, the grandson mentioned in John Salkeld's (the younger) will, on October 26, 1809, conveyed the premises to Thomas B. Dick, and mentions in the deed that the estate descended to him as heir-at-law of his mother, Sarah Gill. Thomas Barnard Dick was an attorney, admitted to the Delaware County bar, February 9, 1790, but removed to Easton shortly after, where for several years he practiced law. He, however, returned to Chester, and was drowned in the Delaware, April 21, 1811. How the accident happened is not known, since he was on the river alone in a row-boat, during a heavy snow storm. He was the father of Archibald T. Dick, a noted lawyer of this county, and in 1834 the Democratic candidate for Congress. During the war of 1812, the latter was a soldier, although he never took part in a battle, being with the contingent forces at Camp Du Pont. He built the Eyre mansion, on Edgmont avenue, now the club house of the Chester Republican League, and died August 13, 1837, in his 43d year. Hon. Franklin A. Dick, his son, born in Chester, at the present time is one of the foremost lawyers at the American bar. Phæbe Dick, the widow of Thomas B. Dick, to whom the latter devised the estate, conveyed the property to William Brobson, April 22, 1831. The latter was for many years an active man in the Borough, carrying on the business of tanning in the yard on Edgmont avenue, now the property of his grandsons, Henry and F. J. Hinkson, Jr. Mr. Brobson, by his will, devised the estate to his wife, Rebecca, who died in 1863, at an advanced age. By her will, February 26, 1861, she directed her real estate to be sold within one year after her death. George Sharpless and Frederick J. Hinkson, Sr., executors, September 10, 1864, conveyed the property to Henry and Charles Hinkson, and they, October 7, 1864, deeded it to Frederick J. Hinkson, Sr.

Frederick J. Hinkson, Sr., was a native of Upper Providence, his grandparents being descended from Irish ancestry. In early life he was a school teacher, continuing that vocation until 1827,



when he entered the Bank of Delaware County as a clerk, graduating in time by merit to the position of cashier, and finally to the presidency of that institution. When the Bank was incorporated under the Act of Congress in 1864, he resigned the office. In 1857, he was elected one of the Associate Judges of Delaware county; subsequently he was elected a Jury Commissioner and Director of the Poor. He was a candidate for the State Legislature in 1874, by a popular call, and so great was the vote cast for him that, although there were three tickets in the field (he being named as an Independent) he was only defeated by a trifling plurality. He was a director in many business associations and companies, being the Treasurer of several. In 1837 he married Hannah, daughter of William Brobson. Judge Hinkson died September 10, 1879, and by his will devised the estate to his sons Henry and Frederick J. Hinkson, Jr., who now own it.

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### *The Hope's Anchor Tavern and the Stacey House.*

The story of the old building at the south-west corner of Market and Fourth streets is an interesting one, and, although I have not been able to ascertain from whom David Coupland derived title, I have learned sufficient of the history of the premises to state that it is an ancient structure, built during the first half of the last century. It could not, of course, have been erected prior to 1700, for in that year the plan of the town was submitted by James Sandelands, the younger, to William Penn and approved by the latter, and at that date the land was in the ownership of the heirs of Jas. Sandelands, the elder. It may be that the property came from Joshua Coupland, who, in his will, December 12, 1750, devised his real estate to his brothers Caleb and David Coupland, charged with a life annuity to his father, William Coupland, then a very aged



man. We know that in 1746 the building had been erected and was at that time kept as a public house by David Coupland, for in that year he, with other innkeepers of Chester, petitioned the Legislature for payment of the "diet furnished to Captain Shannon's company," which troop was part of the forces enlisted during the old French War.

David Coupland was born in Yorkshire, England, and came to the Colony with his parents in 1723, his brother Caleb having preceded him nearly nine years. In 1730 he married Isabella Bell, and from that time seems to have taken an active part in the movements of the day. Although by birthright a Friend, we find that in 1758, when Brigadier General John Forbes commanded the Expedition which resulted in the capture of Fort Du Quesne, (now Pittsburg,) David Coupland enlisted as a private in the company of Captain John Singleton, and during that campaign, he, with Benjamin Davis and John Hanby, (Hanley) agreed to pay Hugh Wilson, of Lancaster county, £5 as a bounty, for entering one wagon in the expedition, to be credited to the Borough of Chester.

When the misunderstanding between the Colonies and England began, David Coupland immediately took sides with the former and was earnest in his efforts to sustain the cause of the Whigs. At the assembling of the people of Chester county, in the old Court House, in this city, December 20, 1774, for the purpose of choosing a committee "to carry into execution the Association of the late Continental Congress," David Coupland was one of the committee chosen, and when the body adjourned, it was agreed that it should meet on January 9, 1775, at the house of David Coupland, and from time to time it held its sessions at his tavern. It was here, May 30, that the declaration of Association was adopted. The mutual pledge thus made was as follows:

"We, the subscribers, do most solemnly resolve, promise and engage under the sacred ties of honor, virtue and love to our country, that we will use our utmost endeavors to learn the military exercise and promote harmony and unanimity in our respective companies; that we will strictly adhere to the rules of decency during duty; that we will pay a due regard to our officers; that we will, when called upon, support with our utmost abilities the civil magistrates in the execution of the laws for the good of our country, and that we will at all times be in readiness to defend the lives,





liberties and properties of ourselves and our fellow-countrymen against all attempts to deprive us of them."

Notice is given by Francis Johnson, Secretary of the Committee, September 25, 1775, calling on the inhabitants of each township in Chester county to hold an election on the 11th of October, and select a person to represent them on the committee for the ensuing year, and the committee so selected is instructed "to meet at the house of David Coupland, in the Borough of Chester, on Monday, the 23d of said month, at 10 o'clock, A. M." It seems that shortly after this date Coupland retired from business, for in an address to the inhabitants of the county, in January, 1776, in pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee of Safety, that the Colony might have competent men to make gunpowder, Benjamin Brannan, Walter Finney and John Beaton announced various points in the county where they would meet and instruct all persons who have sufficient "public virtue and patriotic spirit" \* \* "to excite them to such a valuable and necessary undertaking at this crisis of time," and designate "the house of Mrs. Whitby (Withey) in the Borough of Chester, on the first and second of March."

Notwithstanding his advanced years, David Coupland was so earnest in his advocacy of the cause of the Colonies, and previous to the battle of Brandywiné having entertained the Marquis de Lafayette at his home, that he became very obnoxious to the Tories: hence, when the British army had possession of Philadelphia and Chester county, he was held under suspicion of communicating with the Continental authorities. In the spring of 1778, when the "Vulture," a British man-of-war, laid off Chester, in the middle of the night, a boat's crew came ashore and going to David Coupland's dwelling, the present Stacey house, adjoining the hotel, they took him out of bed and conveyed him to the vessel, where he was detained for many weeks a prisoner. His age, as well as the anxiety consequent on his forced detention from home, his inability to learn aught of his family, the exposure and harsh treatment induced a low, nervous fever. At length, when the disease began to assume alarming symptoms, the commander of the "Vulture" had him conveyed ashore and returned to his home, but without avail. He died previous to August 26, 1778, for his will was admitted to probate at that date. The David Coupland who was elected Chief Burgess



of Chester, and on March 29, 1779, appeared before the Executive Council and took the affirmation required, was the son of Caleb Coupland, and was at that time in his fifty-seventh year. I mention this because I notice that in several places in Martin's History of Chester, the author has been led astray by the similarity of the names.

Who kept the old hostelry immediately after David Coupland, I fail to learn, and although Whitehead, in his Historical Sketch before mentioned, says that James Pennell did at one time, I doubt the accuracy of the statement. Jesse Maddux, early in this century was its landlord. It is related that the former had a number of ducks of rare species which, with pardonable pride, he would frequently show his guests. On one occasion a prisoner in the jail threaded a strong cord through a number of grains of corn, and dropped the bait into the street, the other end being fastened to one of the iron bars in his cell window. A plump drake seeing the tempting morsel, bolted it, and the man began to draw in his catch. The squawking of the duck apprised mine hostess that something out of the usual way had happened, and she hastened to the door. When she beheld the extraordinary rise in poultry, she exclaimed: "You rascal, you! that duck's mine!" "That," replied the prisoner, coolly, "depends on whether this string breaks or not."

Previous to the year 1817, Samuel Pennell occupied the house as a hotel, and was its landlord at the time of the hanging of John H. Craig, for some of his descendants remember standing on the sidewalk and seeing the procession form at the prison, when the Sheriff and his deputies began the march to the place of execution.

On April 1, 1819, John Irwin, an Irishman, who had become financially embarrassed in business in the old country, emigrated with his wife and child to America. Coming to Chester, he was advised by Dr. Terril to lease the "Hope's Anchor," which was then for rent. He was very popular in his new occupation, and soon acquired considerable means. He removed the old sign, and replaced it with one representing a white swan swimming in blue water, which creaked on gusty days as it swung in the frame at the top of a heavy pole planted near the curbstone, at the intersection of the streets. Irwin was, as is noticeable in all persons of his nationality, a sportsman, and as he grew well-to-do, he kept several



fast horses and a pack of hounds. He purchased the premises, including the house now owned by Joseph Lodomus, December 17, 1824, from Matthew D. Bevan, Ann Bevan, (who married Captain Matthew Lawler, Mayor of Philadelphia,) and Tacey Anna Bevan, (who married George Stacey) the children of Agnes Bevan, to whom the property had been devised by her grandfather, David Coupland, for two thousand dollars. From that time until the old Chester Lodge, No. 69, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons surrendered its charter, in 1836, the lodge room was in the third story of the corner building, and was afterwards used by the Odd Fellows.

The hall, after the latter body vacated it, was altered into four or five rooms for the use of guests. John Irwin died in 1834, and the widow continued the business until 1844, when Maurice W. Deshong leased it and changed the name to "The Delaware County Hotel." Mrs. Irwin died in 1847, and September 17, 1849, the property was sold by Robert R. Dutton, Sheriff, in settlement of the estate, to John Parkinson and Michael Carroll. Three years subsequent, March 30, 1852, John Cochran purchased the property, and converted the ancient Inn into two stores and dwellings. The one at the corner was occupied by John Cochran and R. Morgan Johnson as a dry goods store, while the adjoining house was sold by John Cochran, May 15, 1852, to Joseph Lodomus, who still owns it. In February, 1859, John Cochran conveyed the corner store and dwelling to Edward R. Minshall, whose heirs now own the property. In 1879, the corner part of the old building was licensed as a hotel, and is at present kept by Edward Kelly.

The Stacy House, immediately adjoining the hotel to the south, was devised by David Coupland to his daughter Sarah, who, in 1783, married Benjamin Bartholomew. The latter was a member of the Assembly from Chester county, and when that body, June 30, 1775, appointed a Committee of Safety, consisting of twenty-five members, Bartholomew was one named from this district. He was very active and efficient in discharging the duties of the position. He died 1784, and his wife, who survived her husband many years, resided in the house until near her death, and by will devised the premises to her niece, Tacey Ann (Bevan) who had married George Stacey. The latter, by her will, March 28, 1829, devised all her estate to her sons, James G. and Davis B. Stacey, in trust for Han-



nah, the wife of James G., and Sarah, (Van Dyke) wife of Davis B. Stacey, in equal parts, and at their death, to their children, in fee. Davis B. Stacey, well known to the elder residents of this city, with his brother, was at one time largely engaged in business as shipping merchants in Philadelphia, but, owing to heavy losses, the burning of one ship at sea and the wrecking of another, they were compelled to suspend. Mr. Stacey was an accomplished gentleman, and while abroad met Miss Sarah Van Dyke, of Flushing, whom he married. He died 1864, and his wife survived him many years. The property known as the Stacey House, July 3, 1871, was conveyed by Hannah Stacey and her children to Sarah Stacey and her children. The latter are still the owners of the dwelling, which has been in the possession of the family as far back as I could find record.

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### *The Blue Ball Inn.*

The old dwelling at the north-east of Second and Market streets, was erected by Francis Richardson between the years 1765 and 1770. The land whereon it stands was devised to him in 1760, by Grace Lloyd. At the time he began the house, Richardson believed that he was on the high road to great business prosperity, but before he had finished it he became financially embarrassed, owing to mistaken efforts to advance Chester to the front rank as a commercial rival of Philadelphia. It will be noticed that there are holes still in the brick walls where, when the house was building, the timbers were inserted on which rested the boards of the scaffolding. It is said by Martin that in the days before the Mechanics' Lien law, when masons were not paid for their work, these holes were always left in the wall to indicate to their fellow craftsmen that default had been made in that respect, and no mason would fill them in until the builders' claim had been discharged.





Be that as it may the holes remain to this day, and have for more than half a century aroused the curiosity of strangers as well as residents of Chester, as to the reason they had not been closed.

The property was sold by Francis Richardson to David Coupland, reserving in the deed an annual rent of £3. Coupland in his will, dated December 3, 1777, devised to his daughter, Sarah Coupland, the "house and corner lot down Market street, which I purchased from Francis Richardson," during the minority of his grandson, David Bevan, and, when the latter attained manhood, the title was to vest in him. David Bevan, however, died without issue, and the estate passed to Joshua Coupland, a son of David Coupland; for Ezekiel Leonard, Sheriff, sold the rent charge on an execution against Francis Richardson, to Davis Bevan, August 31, 1787, and in the deed designates the property as in the tenure of Joshua Coupland. Bevan, April 1, 1788, conveyed the rent purchased by him to the heirs of Joshua Coupland, and in the distribution of the latter's estate, the Blue Ball Inn descended to his daughter, Sarah, who married, March 6, 1813, Thomas Malin, of Middletown. Mrs. Malin survived her husband, and resided in the ancient dwelling until her death, which occurred previous to 1859.

When the house was first built it was a noted inn, and from its peculiar sign—a blue ball suspended from the end of a pole or staff which projected from a hole in the wall, in the gable end on Market street—it was known as "The Blue Ball Inn." Its then landlord was Samuel Fairlamb, who had married Hannah, the daughter of Francis Richardson. It was one of the dwellings struck by the balls from the English vessel of war which opened fire on the town in 1777, as narrated elsewhere, and the shot is said to have passed directly through one of the rooms in the second story.

Mrs. Malin having died intestate, Joshua Coupland administered to her estate, and on September 24, 1860, sold the property to John Brewster. The latter, April 11, 1866, conveyed it to William Nugent and Drusilla Nugent, and the former, December 29, 1867, sold his interest in the property to Drusilla Nugent, who still owns it. The house is at present occupied as a restaurant.



*Johnson's Tavern.*

Strictly following the plan in writing these sketches, of designating the building by the name of the person who erected it, I am not correct in calling this dwelling Johnson's Tavern, for Samuel Johnson did not come into possession of the premises until many years after the house was erected. The property was part of a tract of land acquired by Jacob Howell from the administrators of Jonas Sandelands, August 21, 1732, (more fully set forth in an account of the Sandeland House elsewhere,) and which afterwards became the property of Isaac Howell, who was a tanner, as was also Jacob Howell. The former conveyed the property to William Pennell, December 10, 1748, as a messuage and lot of land, hence the building was placed there by Isaac or Jacob Howell—I presume the former—because the latter built the small stone house on the east side of Edgmont avenue, elsewhere mentioned in the account of the Sandeland House.

William Pennell, by will, 5th, 7th month, 1757, devised this property to his sons, James, William and Robert, and the two former, December 10, 1763, released their interest in this estate to Robert Pennell, who, April 3, 1784, conveyed the property to Samuel Johnson. The latter kept the dwelling as a public house, and is believed to have occupied it as a tenant before he purchased it. He seems to have failed in his undertaking, for he made default in payment of the mortgage, the estate was seized and sold by Ezekiel Leonard, Sheriff, July 5, 1787, and purchased by Robert Pennell. A brother of the then owner, James Pennell, rented the premises and while he was the landlord, as an attraction for the public, he kept a tiger, which he had taught to perform a number of tricks, and as it was apparently very tame and docile, he had no fears of the animal. This unusual spectacle, at a time when there were no monstrous travelling shows to entertain the public, drew many persons to Pennell's tavern, and frequently he could be seen showing to a crowd of gaping rustics how tractable the creature was and how promptly it obeyed his command.

Pennell subsequently became the landlord of the Black Horse Hotel, in Middletown township, now kept by Edgar C. Lyons, and



when he removed thither he took the beast with him and continued the exhibitions. One day, while showing the country people his control of the tiger, he forced the animal to do many tricks over and over again, until it became enraged, and springing upon Pennell, it tore him with its teeth and claws so badly before it could be driven back, that the unfortunate man died in a few hours thereafter.

After James Pennell had removed from this house, the owner, Robert Pennell, sold it March 23, 1790, to Tristram Smith, who carried on in the yard the business of tanning for about eighteen years. He conveyed the premises, March 26, 1808, to Jeremiah McIlvain, father of Spencer McIlvain, who lived in the house for more than three years, although he did not use the vats and other appliances on the premises in tanning hides. Mr. McIlvain, June 13, 1811, sold the property to John Cowgill, Jr., of Kent county, Delaware, and Joshua C. Cowgill, of Chester, and after they had held the estate in common until December 15, 1815, Joshua C. Cowgill purchased the interest of John Cowgill, Jr., in the premises. The latter died seized of the house and lot, and Martha Cowgill and Cyrus Mendenhall, administrators of his estate, conveyed it, December 14, 1832, to William Brobson, who carried on a tannery in the two yards now owned by him, for both Isaac and Jacob Howell's yards had come into his possession by purchase. William Brobson, by will, January 1, 1852, devised the estate to his wife, Rebecca, and September 25, 1855, Rebecca Brobson conveyed the estate to Frederick J. Hinkson, Sr., who for many years carried on the tan yard therein. By his will he left the premises to his two sons, Frederick J. Hinkson, Jr., and Henry Hinkson.



*The Old Porter (Lloyd) House.*

It is doubtful whether any building in the United States, whose history extends over more than a century and a half has had connected in the title to the property so many distinguished owners as will be found in that of the old Porter House in this city, whose record was closed in that appalling tragedy, early in this year, which shrouded our city in mourning for a season.

By patent dated April 9, 1669, Francis Lovelace, Governor General under the Duke of York, granted unto Neeles Laerson, *alias* Friend, a large tract of ground comprising one hundred and fifty acres, but which by subsequent survey proved to include in the boundary lines one hundred and eighty-three acres. The patent reserved a yearly rent of one and a half bushels of winter wheat, payable to the King. Laerson entered into possession of the land thus allotted him, built upon and improved the premises. By will, dated December 17, 1686—he died the following year—Laerson gave authority to his wife to sell the real estate in her discretion. In exercise of this power Ann Friend—the family had by this time assumed the English alias as their family name and had abandoned the Swedish patronymic absolutely—the widow, Andrew Friend, son and heir of Laerson and Johannes Friend, the second son, by deed dated May 27, 1689, conveyed the estate to David Lloyd. Lloyd, however, after he built the house whose history I am writing, seemed to have had some doubts of the sufficiency of the title and therefore, thirty-four years subsequently, July 13, 1723, he had Ann Friend, (then one hundred and five years old,) and Gabriel Friend and Laurence Friend, the younger sons of Neeles Laerson and Ann, his wife, execute a deed conveying the premises he had purchased in 1686. Parts of the estate thus acquired were sold by Lloyd to Joseph Richardson, and to Rodger Jackson, but he subsequently re-purchased the land thus conveyed, and in addition acquired from Jonas Sandelands a considerable tract, until the estate had increased to about five hundred acres.

David Lloyd was born in the Parish of Marravon, in the county of Montgomery, North Wales, in 1656. He was a trained and well-read lawyer in England, and, although he was only thirty years





old, so highly did Penn esteem his mental worth, that previous to Lloyd's departure for the Colony, the Proprietary appointed him Attorney General of the Province. He and his wife, Sarah, were passengers on the "Amity," which arrived at Philadelphia, August 15, 1686. He is said to have been a man of fine and commanding appearance, of pleasing address, good delivery and an earnest, fluent advocate, whose persistent energy often hastened him in debate to utterances which earned for him the ill will of those holding opinions adverse to those he maintained. His natural powers were, however, so conspicuous that they compelled recognition, hence his appointment to many offices of trust and profit. He was at different times Clerk of the County Court of Philadelphia, Deputy Master of the Rolls and Clerk of the Provincial (Supreme) Court. His refusal while discharging the duties of the latter office to deliver over to Governor Blackwell the records of the Court, brought him in direct collision with the Executive, and, although he was defeated finally, for a considerable time he maintained his position successfully.

In 1689 he was Clerk of the Assembly, and in 1692-'94 he was a member of that body, representing the county of Philadelphia. Subsequently for four years he was a member of the Provincial Council, and while filling that position he battled earnestly for popular rights as against the encroachment of acting Governor Markham, and, indeed, it was largely due to his determined courage that Markham accorded the new charter of Privileges in 1696. To him we are indebted for many Legislative enactments, which, at that early day, gave security to the public and improvement to the Province. In 1702 he was appointed advocate to the Court of Admiralty. The opening of the eighteenth century found Lloyd in open revolt against Logan and Penn. Logan was haughty and reserved, while "Lloyd was accessible to all, affable in his manners, pertinacious in his enterprises, and devoted to the people," and his brave conduct in refusing to personally apologize to Gov. Evans, made him, as he was, the advocate and defender of the rights of the people. His undaunted courage and persistency of purpose soon made him the foremost man in the Colony, and his honesty of action caused him to be the centre about which all who were struggling for popular rights gathered. The Logan and Penn corres-



pondence shows with what bitter hatred he was regarded by Penn and James Logan, the latter the ever-willing mouthpiece of the Proprietary party. The most opprobrious epithets and the basest of motives were freely ascribed to him, but, notwithstanding the slanders which were constantly hurled at him, he maintained his purpose without shrinking from the responsibilities it cast on him. His warm personal friendships kept his adherents ardent in his cause, and he was repeatedly chosen a member of the Assembly and often its speaker. Logan, previous to his open rupture with Lloyd, in a letter to William Penn, describes Lloyd as "a man very stiff in all his undertakings, of sound judgment and a good lawyer, but extremely pertinacious and somewhat revengeful." Proud, the historian, whose mind seemed to have leaned toward the Proprietary party, tells us that "his political talents seem to have been rather to divide than to unite, a policy that may suit the crafty politician, but must ever be disclaimed by the Christian statesman."

In 1709 Lloyd was manager of the impeachment of James Logan, which proceeding justly failed in convicting the defendant of the charges alleged. In 1718 he was appointed Chief Justice of the Province, a position he held until his death in 1731.

David Lloyd was twice married, his second wife was Grace Growden, whom he wed after the year 1703, for several deeds of that year are executed by him alone, indicating that at that time he was a widower. By his first marriage he was childless; by his second, he was the father of one son, who, at an early age was killed by an accident. He died 6th day of ye 2d month, (May) 1731, aged 78 years, for such is the inscription on his tomb-stone in Friends' grave yard here. If it be a fact that he was seventy-eight years old when he died, David Lloyd could not have been born in 1656, and yet all the authorities agree in giving the latter date as that of his birth. By his will dated March 27, 1724, after a few bequests, the remainder of his estate is devised to his wife Grace, who was twenty-seven years younger than her husband.

The old mansion was built in 1721, and the slab on which was engraved the letters L. L. D. & G., 1721, which was formerly in the western gable of the dwelling, is now in the office of Chief of Police L. D. Wheaton, to whom it was presented by the contractor who took down the shattered wall of the building after the explo-



sion in 1882. The house was of stone, massively built, and was one of the best specimens of Colonial grandeur which had descended to our time. It received many additions to it after it passed into the possession of Commodore Porter, such as the building of the cupola on the roof, the walling up of the open corner chimney-place and substituting therefor the grates and marble mantels which were seen there when the ruins were visited by thousands of people last spring. Lloyd lived sumptuously in the old mansion, then as before stated one of the most imposing dwellings in the New World, entertaining largely and keeping a retinue of servants. He was one of the eight gentlemen of means in the Province, including the Governor, who, in the year 1725, are recorded as owning four-wheeled carriages, drawn by two horses.

Grace Lloyd, in her widowhood, was attended faithfully by her friend, Jane Fenn, a noted minister of Friends, until the latter married, and in turn became the mistress of the old dwelling. Jane Fenn was born in 1693, in London, and when very young was strongly impressed with the belief that it was her duty to go to Pennsylvania, and after several years had elapsed, in which she struggled against the impression, she sailed in 1712, in company with a Welshman, Robert Davis, who with his family were emigrating to Pennsylvania. Davis had paid her passage, and she had obligated herself to return the outlay out of the first money she could earn; but when he insisted that she should bind herself as a servant for four years to repay him the money, she resisted, as she had not come as a redemptioner. Davis had her arrested for debt. She was thrown into prison, but was relieved therefrom by some Friends, who paid the claim and employed her in their families as a teacher of their children. At this time she was not a Quaker, but the kindness of these people attracted her toward them, and finally she united with the Society and became ultimately one of its most efficient ministers. It is recorded that at a meeting at Haverford, David and Grace Lloyd came in, and immediately Jane Fenn, who was present, was impressed with the conviction that "these were the people with whom she must go and settle," while David and Grace Lloyd were in their turn impressed with Jane, "and it was fixed in their minds to take her for the Lord's service." In 1719 she went to live with the family as housekeeper, and remained



with them until 1727, when she visited England and Ireland on a religious mission, and returned to Chester in 1730, a short time previous to David Lloyd's death. She remained with his widow until her (Jane Fenn's) marriage to Joseph Hoskins, 8th mo. 26, 1738, at Chester Meeting.

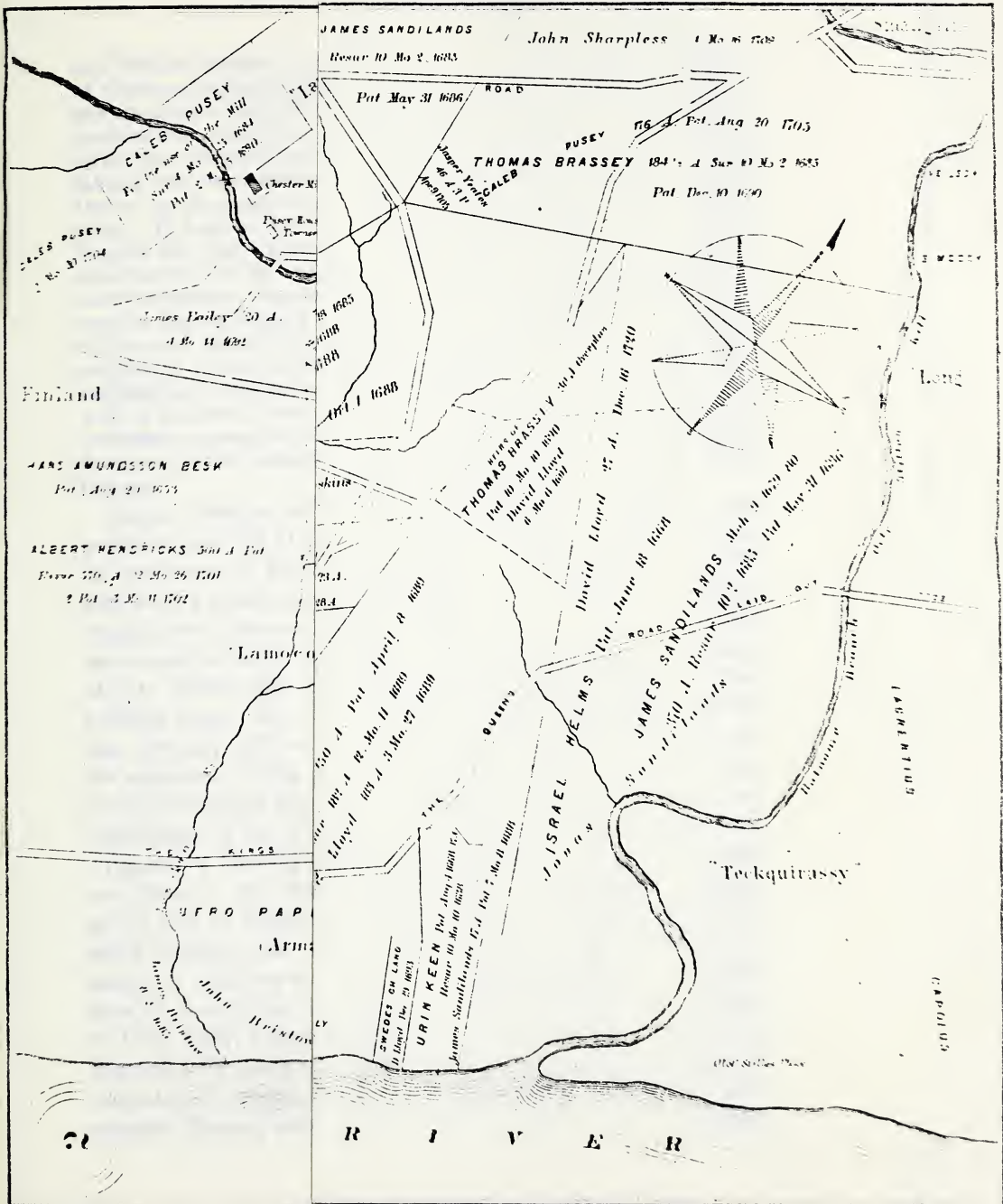
On May 1, 1741, Grace Lloyd conveyed the mansion and most of the real estate she acquired under her husband's will to Joseph Hoskins, reserving two acres of ground and "also the room in the south-west corner of the mansion house, called the dining room, the room on the north-east corner of said house, called the parlor, with a closet and milk house adjoining, the chamber over the said dining room, the chamber over the said parlor, one-half part of the garret, the front part of the cellar, the old kitchen and chamber over it, the chaise house, the use of the pump, cider mill and cider press to make her own cider, and part of the garden, with free liberty of ingress, egress and regress into and out of all and every the premises for the term of her natural life without impeachment of waste" Grace Lloyd died in 1760.

Joseph Hoskins was one of the best citizens our town has ever had. He was an enterprising, public spirited man, doing good and asking no mere gratification of his personal vanity by coupling his gift with conditions that the donor's name should be made conspicuous and held in remembrance because of these works by which others should be benefitted. He gave because his heart prompted the act in the love he bore his fellows. Joseph Hoskins was born in Chester, June 30, 1705, and seems to have been an active man of business. When twenty-six years of age he made a voyage to the Island of Barbadoes, but returned after a short absence and in 1739, after his marriage, he went to Boston, on business. In the early days of our country, a journey such as this, was a remarkable event in a man's life, and, at this time more persons can be found in Chester, in proportion to its population, who have visited Japan, than at the period I am alluding to, who had made a voyage to Boston. He was made Chief Burgess of Chester and one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in 1758. In his will bearing date the 31st day of the 12th month, 1769, Joseph Hoskins made this important public devise:

"Item. I give and devise unto my friends Henry Hale Graham







JAMES SANDILANDS

John Sharpless 1 Mo 6 1708

Resur 10 Mo 2 1685

Pat May 31 1696

ROAD

Pat Aug 20 1705

THOMAS BRASSEY 184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685

Pat Dec 10 1699

PUSEY

CALLES  
The Mill  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685

Chester Mill

James Bailey 30 A  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685

Finland

JAMES AMUNDSSON BESK

Pat Aug 21 1675

ALBERT HENDRICKS 300 A Pat

Essex 30<sup>th</sup> A 2 Mo 26 1701

2 Pat 3 Mo 11 1702

THOMAS BRASSEY 30 J. 184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
Pat 10 Mo 10 1690  
Divided between  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685

Pat May 31 1696

Pat June 10 1700

JAMES SANDILANDS 184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
Pat May 31 1696

Lamoena

300 J. Pat April 10 1680  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685

QUEEN'S

ISRAEL HELMS 184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
Pat June 10 1700

JAMES SANDILANDS 184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
Pat May 31 1696

LAURENTIUS

UTRO PAP

Aring

John Heinston

SWEEDS ON LAND  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685

URIN KEEN 184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685  
Pat June 10 1700  
184<sup>th</sup> A Sur 17 Mo 2 1685

Teckquitrassy

CAPITULUS

20

R I V E R







and William Swaffer, a certain lot of ground situate in the Borough of Chester, beginning at the intersection of Welsh or Back street, and the King's road, and to extend along the said King's road one hundred feet, and from thence parallel with the said Welsh or Back street one hundred feet, and from thence parallel with the said King's road one hundred feet to the said Welsh or Back street and thence by the same street one hundred feet to the place of beginning. To hold to them the said Henry Hale Graham and William Swaffer and their heirs forever upon special trust and confidence nevertheless and to and for the uses, intents and purposes hereinafter mentioned, expressed and declared, and none other, that is to say, for the use, benefit and behoof of all and every the inhabitants of the said Borough and township of Chester for the building and erecting a school house or school houses or other edifices for the teaching and instructing and educating of youths therein, and my will is that the Trustees aforesaid enter into and be in quiet and peaceable possession of the said lot of ground, immediately after some part of the materials are got ready for erecting a school house thereon."

Joseph Hoskins did not die until 1773, and his will was not probated until the 21st of July of that year, but so unbounded was the confidence of his neighbors in his uprightness, that in 1770 they built a school house on the lot thus given to the Borough, although their title was simply the statement of Hoskins, that he had made such devise of real estate in his will. We have every assurance to believe that he gave liberally of his income toward the building itself. Not only did he give this land, but in his will he also directed £30—a large sum in those days—to be paid by his executors to John Eyre and James Barton, to be applied "for the schooling and educating of such poor children belonging to the inhabitants of the Borough and township of Chester as the said Preparative Meeting for the time being shall think fit to order and direct." He also gave £10 towards enclosing the Friends' grave yard, on Edgmont avenue, with a brick or stone wall, and, he being childless, the residue of his estate, after a few personal bequests to relatives and friends, he gave to his nephew, John Hoskins, of Burlington, New Jersey. This John Hoskins had married, in 1750, Mary, a daughter of Joshua and Sarah Raper, of Burlington, and their son, Raper Hoskins, having made Chester his place of residence, in charge of his father's property here, May 2, 1781, married Eleanor, daughter of Henry Hale Graham, while Joseph



Hoskins, Raper Hoskins' brother, married, June 12, 1793, Mary, a younger daughter of Henry Hale Graham. John Hoskins, to whom the estate descended under Joseph Hoskins' will, after holding the title to the premises for eighteen years, on March 22, 1791, made a deed conveying a large tract of land, comprising that whereon the old mansion house stood, to Raper Hoskins. The latter having died in the fall of the year 1798, a victim of the yellow fever scourge in Chester, his widow, Eleanor Hoskins, was granted letters on his estate and in discharge of her duties sold the property, April 28, 1799, to Thomas Laycock. The latter died in the fall of the year 1804, and in satisfaction of certain obligations the estate was sold, October 20, 1806, by John Odenheimer, Esq., Sheriff, to Daniel Hitner, who in turn conveyed it, May 20, 1808, to Anthony Morris. December 10, of the same year, Morris sold the premises to Phebe Pemberton, and November 17, 1809, she conveyed the estate to Major William Anderson. Evelina Anderson, the daughter of the Major, having intermarried with David Porter, in that year the newly wedded couple made their home at the old mansion, excepting during the times when Porter was located at naval stations in charge of the Government yards. February 24, 1816, William Anderson and Elizabeth, his wife, "in consideration of the natural love and affection which they have and bear for their son-in-law, the said David Porter, as well for and in consideration of one dollar," conveyed to David Porter in fee the house, improvements and a trifle over three acres and a half of land.

David Porter was born in Boston, February 1, 1780, and was appointed Midshipman April 3, 1793. He was a Lieutenant on board the "Constellation," when that frigate captured the French vessel of war, "L'Insurgent," in February, 1799, and was promoted for his bravery on that occasion. In 1800, he was wounded in an engagement with pirates off Santo Domingo, and was promoted to the command of the "Enterprise." While commanding that vessel he captured a Tripolitan corsair. He had charge of the expedition which destroyed several feluccas laden with wheat, under the batteries at Tripoli, in which engagement he was again wounded. In 1803, he was captured in the frigate "Philadelphia," when that vessel grounded in the harbor of Tripoli, was taken prisoner and for eighteen months was held as a slave. In 1806, he com-





manded the "Enterprise," and fought and severely handled twelve Spanish gunboats, near Gibraltar. In 1812, he was commissioned Captain and placed in command of the "Essex," which vessel he rendered famous in our country's annals, although he finally lost the ship in one of the most noted naval combats of history with two British vessels of war, off Valparaiso. In 1815 to 1816, he was one of the Naval Commissioners, and in the latter year made a successful cruise against the pirates that then infested the Gulf of Mexico. In consequence of some infraction of naval law he was suspended for six months: in 1826 he resigned his commission and entered the Mexican Navy as its Commander-in-Chief, an office which he soon resigned. In 1829, he was appointed United States Consul at Algiers, and when that country was conquered by the French, he was made United States Charge d'Affairs at Constantinople, and while discharging the duties of that office he negotiated several important treaties with that government. He died at Pera, near Constantinople, March 3, 1843, and his remains were brought to this country and interred in Woodland cemetery, Philadelphia. Mrs. Evelina Porter survived her husband twenty-eight years, dying October 1, 1871, in her 80th year.

David Porter left five sons and two daughters, the eldest, Evelina, married Captain Harris Heap, and the youngest, Imogene, married Mr. Harris.

William David Porter, the eldest son, born in New Orleans in 1810, entered the navy in his 18th year. During the early part of the Rebellion his loyalty was unjustly suspected, when he was in command of the sloop of war "St. Mary," on the Pacific station. He was, however, assigned to duty on the Mississippi river, where he fitted out the gunboat fleet and was placed in command of the "Essex," which took part in the attack on Forts Henry and Donaldson, in which latter engagement a ball from the fort plunged through the boiler of his vessel and the escaping steam so severely scalded Porter, that he ultimately died from its effects, May 1, 1864. Notwithstanding his feeble health, he ran the batteries between Cairo and New Orleans, took part in the attack on Vicksburg, destroyed the rebel ram "Arkansas," near Baton Rouge, and assisted in the attack on Fort Hudson. He had by this time be-



come so ill that he was ordered to New York to recruit his shattered health and died there at the date stated.

David D. Porter, the present Admiral, is said to have been born in Philadelphia in 1813, although in his letter to the Hanley Hose Company, respecting the date stone of the Porter House, he speaks of Chester as his native place. When a mere lad at school in this city, one Saturday afternoon he and the late George W. Piper provided themselves with several pounds of powder and made what the boys call a squib. The match seeming to have gone out, David Porter and his companion got down on their knees and blew the flame. The squib exploded and Porter and Piper were blown over the fence, near the old mansion. The hair on their heads was burned off, as well as their eye-brows, and the skin of their faces and hands was blistered badly. This was the future Admiral's "baptism of fire." He entered the Navy as Midshipman, in 1829, and from 1836 to 1840 was attached to the Coast Survey. He took part in the Mexican war, and in 1861 joined the Gulf Squadron in command of the "Powhatan." He was in command of the mortar boats in the attack on the Forts below New Orleans, in 1862, and did important duties on the Mississippi and Red Rivers in 1863-'64. He was conspicuous in the siege of Vicksburg, for which he was made Rear-Admiral. In 1864, he was in command of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, and rendered efficient services in the capture of Fort Fisher, in January, 1865. In 1866, he was made Vice-Admiral, and in 1876, Admiral of the United States. He is the present owner of the old Porter property in this city.

Theodoric Porter, the third son, entered the regular army in 1838, as Lieutenant in the 7th U. S. Infantry, and was killed in a skirmish with the Mexicans, April 18, 1846, during Gen. Taylor's advance previous to the battle of Palo Alto. It is stated by army officers that he strayed out of camp the night before the battle, and his body was found the next morning with several dead Mexicans laying around his corpse.

Fifty years ago, when David D. Porter and his younger brother, Theodoric, were living at the old mansion, the winter was very severe and the river Delaware was frozen over. The two venturesome men announced their determination to sleigh to Philadelphia.



Many of the residents of Chester tried to dissuade them from the attempt, but at nine o'clock in the morning they started from the foot of Welsh street, David driving. The mouths of the creeks were piled with ice several feet in height, and they were compelled to take the inside channel. A goodly part of their journey was performed on enormous cakes of ice which were entirely loose from the shore. At noon they reached the Navy Yard, and returning, left that place at three o'clock. The cold had become so intense that the two men were compelled to stop and build a fire on the ice to warm themselves. Resuming their journey they reached Chester at nine o'clock at night. They had traveled thirty miles on the frozen surface of the river, a feat never attempted before, or, if it had been, no record has been made thereof.

Henry Ogden Porter—or "Budd," as he was familiarly called—the fourth son, named for his uncle, Capt. Henry Ogden, was in the Navy, and afterwards in the Revenue service. During the Rebellion he was an acting Lieutenant in the Navy, and fought his vessel—the gunboat "Hatteras"—off Mobile, in an engagement with the "Alabama" until she sunk, her flag still flying proudly as she disappeared beneath the water. He died about fifteen years ago near Washington.

Hamilton Porter, the next brother, was a Lieutenant in the Navy, and died of yellow fever while in service, on August 10, 1844.

The old house, after Commodore Porter's family ceased to use it as a residence, was leased to a number of tenants until at last the location of the gas works in that neighborhood rendered it no longer a desirable dwelling, and it was leased in 1862 to Professor Jackson, of Philadelphia, for a pyrotechnic manufactory. On Friday morning, February 17, 1882, shortly after seven o'clock, fire was discovered in the kitchen of the old structure and the alarm was responded to promptly by the fire department, although the entire force had been out late the preceding night battling with the flames which had laid the Pennsylvania Military Academy in ruins. The crowd which had gathered about the Porter House kept back because of the report which had been spread among them that gunpowder was stored in the establishment, but when they saw the Chief of the Fire Department and the members of the various fire companies approaching near to the structure, they drew closer to



the scene. Flames at this time were observed coming out of the windows on the west side, and in half an hour after the firemen had arrived and had gone into service, a slight explosion occurred, which occasioned no injury. The men who had fled in alarm when this explosion took place, being assured that all danger was past, returned to the work of saving the building from absolute destruction. Hardly had the firemen again mounted the ladders and resumed their labors, when a second explosion took place, which leveled the walls of the old kitchen to the ground, and tore huge gaps in the northern and southern walls of the main building. The air was filled with stones, which were hurled to great distances, killing in all eighteen persons and wounding fifty-seven, many of the latter still bearing upon their persons the disfiguring marks of their narrow escape from death. The houses in the neighborhood were in many instances damaged, and window glasses were shattered at considerable distances from the scene of the explosion. Never before in our city's history was there such wide-spread horror and dismay as on that fatal morning.

Business was entirely suspended and each person sought to learn if any of their family, friends or acquaintances were among those who had been killed or injured. Every effort was immediately made to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded and for the relief of those families wherein death from the explosion had occurred. To that end a fund amounting to about ten thousand dollars was subscribed within a few weeks and distributed by a committee appointed for that purpose. The occurrence of this frightful calamity is too recent to require more than this brief mention now, but it will pass into our history as one of the most appalling events which has ever happened in Chester, and for many years to come will be narrated by those who witnessed it, to succeeding generations, in all the vivid details that memory always lends to such an incident.





*The Barber House.*

David Lloyd, under date of June 14, 1699, conveyed a lot on the north-east corner of Second street and Edgmont avenue to Robert Barber, and he it was who erected the dwelling adjoining the present "Edgmont House" to the east. The house was an imposing one in its day; the pent roof over the second story window still remains, although the porch, which formerly projected out some distance on the sidewalk, has been removed. It has two doors. The eastern one leading into the parlor, and the western door into the hallway, a room of the same size as the one on the opposite side, and in this apartment the staircase ascended to the rooms above. Back of this was the sitting room, while in the rear of the parlor was a dining room. The fireplaces and hearths in the hall-room and the parlor were laid in blue tiles, presenting scenes from Scriptural history, and in the chambers above, on each side of the fireplaces, were large closets, similar to those mentioned in the account of the Hoskins and Logan Houses.

Robert Barber died seized of the estate, and by will, July 3, 1708, devised it to his wife Hannah, for life, with remainder to his nephew, Robert Barber. The widow having married and her second husband having also died, she, on November 19, 1743, as Hannah Hudson, conveyed her life estate to Robert Barber, thus vesting in him the title absolutely. The latter and Hannah, his wife, then residing in Hempfield, Lancaster county, in consideration of ten shillings, and "the love and natural affection they bear unto their son," on August 11, 1747, conveyed the premises and a tract of six acres and other lots in Chester, to John Barber. He, August 25, of the same year, sold the estate mentioned to Peter Dick, a well-known citizen, who had represented the county in General Assembly. He it was who owned and operated with John Crosly, the forge at Crum Creek, which Acrelius mentions, and of which Peter Kalm, the Swedish naturalist, in 1748, writes:

"About two English miles behind Chester I passed an iron forge, which was to the right hand of the roadside. It belonged to two brothers, (?) as I was told. The ore is not, however, dug here, but thirty or forty miles hence, where it is first melted in an oven and



then carried to this place. The bellows were made of leather, and both they and the hammers, and even the hearth, but small in proportion to ours. All the machines were worked by water."

Peter Dick dying seized of the estate, by will, November 4, 1756, devised this house to his son, John Dick, who thereafter becoming embarrassed, the dwelling was taken in execution and sold by Jonathan Fairlamb, Sheriff, November 26, 1763, (subject to the payment of a mortgage for £150 held by H. H. Graham,) to Elisha Price.

Elisha Price, a nephew of Elisha Gatchell, who became so noted in the controversy between Penn and Lord Baltimore, was a lawyer of prominence in the last century, having been a student in the office of Joseph Parker. He frequently represented Chester county in the Colonial Legislature, and in the troublous times preceding the active outbreak of hostilities in the war for Independence, he was an unflinching Whig. When the merchants of Philadelphia and New York adopted their noted non-importation agreement and asked the support therein of the people in the outlying districts, he was one of three to whom was addressed the circular sent to Chester county, and was one of the committee selected by the Convention, July 15, 1774, held in this Borough to consider the matter. The following day he, with his associates, met similar committees from the other counties, in Philadelphia. In 1775, he was appointed one of the seven committeemen of correspondence from Chester county. He was an earnest Episcopalian, and from 1767 to 1798 his name appears among the vestrymen and wardens of St Paul's Church. His wife was descended from James Barton, a minister of Friends, and "an early settler," says Deborah Logan, "a gentleman and a person of excellent character." Elisha Price died in 1798.

John C. Beatty, of this city, states that in this house, in the north-west room on the first floor, the wound of General Lafayette, after the battle of Brandywine, was dressed by Mrs. Mary (Gorman) Lyons.\* In support of this statement, he narrates the

\*In the account of the Columbia House, I referred to a letter written by Joseph Weaver, Jr., in 1843, respecting the house where Lafayette's wound was dressed. The letter at large is as follows:

"CHESTER, DELAWARE COUNTY, April 3, 1843.

HON. CALVIN BLYTHE.

*Dear Sir:*—I take the freedom of recommending to your attention Mr. Crossman



following incident which he recalls as having occurred when Lafayette was in Chester, in 1824. Mr. Beatty's grandfather, John Caldwell, who did good service for the Continental cause at the battle of Brandywine, took him (Beatty) to see the "National Guest," and when his grandfather had shaken hands with Lafayette, he said: "You don't remember me, General." "Yes, I do," replied the Frenchman; "You're John Caldwell, I remember you very well; you stood by me when my wounded foot was dressed." That day Caldwell walked with his grandson to this house, and the former showed him (Beatty) where the table stood in the room on which Lafayette laid while his injuries were cared for. During the Revolution, Elisha Price owned and lived in this house.

This property descended to his daughter Abigail, in the distribution of his estate which was large, and June 24, 1799, Aaron Musgrave and Abigail, his wife, sold it to Davis Bevan, who in turn, by his will devised it to his son, Matthew L. Bevan. The latter, July 18, 1833, sold it to Isaac Higgins, who lived in the house for many years and died therein. After his death the property was sold by John Larkin, Jr., Sheriff, March 1, 1842, to Thomas Robinson, who made extensive repairs to the house, and unfortunately deeming the fire-places with their colored tiles an old fashion to be done away with, tore them out, the tiles being thrown in the street and carried away by the children. Robinson afterward making default in the payment of the mortgage, the premises were sold by Samuel Hibberd, Sheriff, May 27, 1844, to Frederick J. Hinkson, Sr., who March 25, 1851, conveyed the house to William Booth. He owned it until March 26, 1859, when he sold it to Jonathan Pusey. The latter died seized of the estate, and his heirs, October 20, 1866, conveyed it to Isaiah H. Mirkil—the man to whom more than all other men, Chester is indebted for the erection of Second street bridge—who still owns it.

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Lyons, of this place, as a suitable person for the situation of Collector of Customs at Marcus Hook. From a long acquaintance with Mr. Lyons I feel warranted in representing him as a man that will well and efficiently execute his duties.

It may not be improper to add that Mr. Lyons is the son of a Revolutionary character who served his country during the whole of that War, in sustaining our Independence, and his mother was the lady who waited upon and dressed the wounds of Lafayette, at Mrs. Withey's Tavern (now the Columbia House) in Chester, after the battle of Brandywine.

I am very respectfully yours truly,

JOSEPH WEAVER, JR."



*The Sandelands' House.*

The ancient dwelling standing on the west side of Edgmont avenue, interposing itself directly in the way of the extension of Fourth street to Chester creek, now owned by Jonathan Pennell, was built by Jonas Sandelands, the second son of James Sandelands, the elder, previous to August 21, 1732, for at that date Arthur Shields and Mary his wife, as the administrators of Sandelands' estate, (his widow Mary having married Shields) conveyed the premises as a message and lot to Jacob Howell, a tanner by occupation, subject to a quit rent of one shilling yearly to the heirs of Jonas Sandelands, forever. It is probable that Howell lived in this house, although not then a married man, but having built the dwelling on the east side of Edgmont avenue, directly in the rear, and abutting against the City Hotel—the property of Stephen Cloud, and now occupied as a Chinese laundry—he wished to sell the dwelling and a part of the ground he had purchased from Shields. Hence, on May 1, 1733, he conveyed the message and a portion of the land to John Wharton, a saddler, of Chester, who subsequently removed to Philadelphia having first sold, July 20, 1749, the premises to William Pennell. The latter resided in the dwelling until his death, and, by will, 12th month 20, 1756, devised the property to his three sons, James, Robert and William. Robert and William Pennell, December 20, 1762, transferred their interests to their brother James. The latter by will, December 22, 1763, devised it to his son Thomas, who died unmarried and without issue, and his title vested in his four brothers—William, James, Nathan and Jonathan. The three first named, April 9, 1782, conveyed their interest to Jonathan Pennell, the grandfather of the present owner.

Jonathan Pennell was a blacksmith and at the time he purchased his brothers' interest did not reside in the house which had been used as a hospital and barracks by the American troops during the Revolutionary war, and was then in a dilapidated condition.

It is related that when he first proposed to locate here and purchase from the other heirs the entire interest in the property, he called on Henry Hale Graham and desired his opinion as to his prospects of success in his avocation at Chester. The latter, in





response, stated that he could not answer with any degree of certainty; he simply knew that all blacksmiths in the town, theretofore, had grown so desperately poor by crooking their little fingers that in a short time they could not keep iron cold. In other words, that intemperance had so reduced them that they could keep no stock in their shops, but were compelled to part with it to satisfy the craving of their appetite. However, Pennell must have impressed Graham favorably, for he loaned him £250, and stipulated that he would receive the principal at any time in sums of £10. So industriously and energetically did Pennell labor that he succeeded far beyond his expectations. He soon began making payment as designated, and so often did he present himself with the stipulated amount of £10 in liquidation of the gross sum, that one day when he came on that errand, Graham, after he receipted for the money, said: "Good gracious, man, where do you get all this money?" "I hammer it out of cold iron," was the reply of Pennell, who had not forgotten his first interview with the Judge. He ultimately acquired considerable means and became the owner of much real estate. In his will, August 13, 1829, he devised "the house and lot thereunto adjoining, where I now dwell, with the appurtenances, to my son, Edmund Pennell."

The latter, who is a well-known resident of this city, after his father's death, purchased that part of the Withey farm which extended from about Ulrich street on the east, to Lamokin run on the west, and from the Post road to the river, from Charles Justice. The latter had built the large brick building in 1828, on Second street, east of Pennell street, now known as the old Pennell house, the brick for which were made on the farm and burned in a clamp kiln, a short distance from the site of the dwelling. Mr. Pennell sold the farm in 1862 to Broomall and Ward. For several terms he was a member of Borough Council, and President of the Delaware County Bank for five years, succeeding Samuel A. Crozer in office. Mr. Pennell, although a septuagenarian, is still active. His recollection of the old times in Chester is vivid, and he has a fund of information respecting the men who moved and the events which happened in this locality more than sixty years ago. February 3, 1877, Edmund Pennell and wife conveyed the property to their son Jonathan Pennell, who now owns it.



*The Huertine House.*

The brick building on the south side of Third street, more than midway in the block toward Edgmont avenue, which is now occupied by Browning & Co, as a clothing house, was built by William Huertine, subsequent to 1712; for August 12, of that year, John Musgrove and Mary, his wife, sold to William Huertine the ground on which the house was afterwards erected, subject to a yearly quit rent of two shillings to the heirs of James Sandelands, the younger, and the same day Jonas Sandelands and Mary, his wife, confirmed the grant, reserving to the heirs of the grantor a yearly quit rent of two silver shillings. William Huertine, who was a silversmith, erected the house, but subsequently removed to New York, where he died. His widow, Elizabeth, and his children and heirs, March 2, 1724, conveyed the house and grounds—a larger tract of land - to Ruth Hoskins, who in her will, dated July 3, 1739, devised the house and lots to her son-in-law, John Mather, he paying £50 to John, Ruth and Mary Hoskins, the grandchildren of the testators, and children of her son, Stephen Hoskins.

John Mather, by his will, June 28, 1768, devised the estate to his grandson, John Mather Jackson, who, March 26, 1783, sold the premises to Edward Vernon, and the latter, December 16, 1784, conveyed it to Frederick Engle, who in turn by will devised it to his daughter Sarah, wife of Thomas Killie. The latter, June 2, 1804, sold the house to Preston Eyre, and he purchased other lands from John Odenheimer, April 20, 1805, to straighten his line. The estate devised by Ruth Hoskins to Mather, had been sold in several parts, during the course of over half a century which had elapsed between these two dates.

Preston Eyre kept store in Chester, and when the Delaware County Bank was chartered, by Act of Assembly, March 21, 1814, he was appointed its first cashier. This institution, which was incorporated under the general omnibus bank Act, passed by the Legislature over the veto of Gov. Simon Snyder, has been the most successful bank created by that legislation, for although a large number of similar corporations started up under the provisions of



the statute, the great majority of them failed within a few years. John Newbold was the first President, and, as stated before, Preston Eyre was cashier. While the banking house—just torn down to erect on its site a more imposing and convenient structure—was being built, the business of the institution was carried on in the house of the cashier, the one of which I am now writing. It is related that at that period it was the style among the fashionable ladies of the larger cities to wear short dresses and pantalets which descended to their ankles, and thus attired to make their appearance in public. A damsel of Chester was desirous of introducing this new-fangled mode to the denizens of this locality, and, therefore, dressing herself in the costume mentioned, with all the concomitant articles necessary to complete the approved toilet, she ventured into the street for an afternoon stroll. The uncouth lads of Chester at that day, many of whom had no more knowledge of Philadelphia than of Peking, looked on at the strange sight with astonishment, and the boys near by called to their companions at a distance, for school was just dismissing, until the lady found herself surrounded by ragged urchins of all sizes, who capered, shouted and made all manner of game of her. She tried to drive them away, but every time she routed them in one direction, they charged at her in another, until completely exhausted she fled into the dwelling of Preston Eyre for refuge, where she remained until night-fall, when she hastened home under cover of the darkness, resolving never again to attempt setting the fashion.

When the new banking house was completed the old dwelling was rented to various tenants, although the title was retained by Preston Eyre, even after he had resigned his position in the bank, and following Greeley's advice, before Greeley ever announced his celebrated cure for all business ill, had gone West. March 24, 1844, Preston Eyre conveyed the premises to Hon. Edward Darlington, who married a daughter of Eyre's, and had lived in the dwelling several years before he purchased it. Mr. Darlington was admitted to the Delaware county bar April 9, 1821. He was appointed Deputy Attorney General for Delaware county soon after his admission and prosecuted for the Commonwealth in the trial of Willington, Labbe and Buys, in 1824, for the murder of Bonsall. He was Representative of this district in Congress for three con-



secutive terms from 1833 to 1839, and was at that time in full practice in his profession. About fifteen years ago Mr. Darlington retired from active work, and to-day, although in his eighty-eighth year, his faculties are not impaired, and he delights to relate his recollections of past generations to the attentive auditory of this.

Hon. Edward Darlington, November 13, 1858, conveyed the premises to Jane Flavill, wife of Edward E Flavill. Mrs. Flavill, now well stricken in years, has been an active business woman all her life, and built a number of houses in the Borough when the hamlet began to arouse its sluggish energies. The building now owned and occupied by the First National Bank was erected by her. March 25, 1863, she sold the house and part of the ground she purchased from Mr. Darlington to Thomas Moore, who carried on therein a successful hardware business for many years, when he retired and now devotes his attention to scientific study and investigation. To Mr. Moore's efforts is due the organization of the Chester Institute of Science and Mechanic Arts, a body which is destined to be of much influence in developing a desire for higher and better education among the great mass of our citizens.

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### *The Thomas Barton House.*

John Wade, of Essex House, by his deed, July 27-8, 1736, conveyed to Thomas Barton a tract of ground which from the peculiar bend in Chester creek, its eastern boundary, was known as the "Horse Shoe." The plot contained a trifle over seventy-one acres, and was sold subject to the payment of ten shillings annually forever, toward the support of a free school in Philadelphia. In September of the same year, John Wade conveyed twenty-two and a half acres to Thomas Barton in addition to those already purchased, subject to two shillings yearly forever, for the like purpose, which charge on the land had been created by the will of Robert Wade.





Subsequently, the directors accepted a ground rent on Arch street, Philadelphia, and discharged the Wade estate from the payment of the annual rent mentioned.

Thomas Barton, who was an Irishman, is said to have been a sea captain, and retiring from that avocation, he settled in Chester, where he married and became the ancestor of the Barton family of Delaware county. He had, however, between the date of the purchase of this land and the conveyance of the estate to Jonas Preston, been engaged in coachmaking, for in the deed to the latter, February 19, 1759, the grantors are described as "Thomas Barton, coachmaker, and Susanna, his wife," and in referring to the Wade deeds, it is stated "the said Thomas Barton has since (1736) erected a brick messuage or tenement thereon." This house is still standing in the rear of Joshua P. Eyre's mansion on Seventh street.

Jonas Preston was the youngest son of William Preston, of Bradley, Yorkshire, England, (who emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1718, and settled in Bucks county, where William died previous to 1722, for in that year his widow married Thomas Canby.) Jonas was born in England, in 1710. He married, when quite a young man, Jane Paxson, who became the mother of eleven children, and dying in 1749, the widower married a widow, Sarah Carter—her maiden name was Plumsley—but she dying in 1754, Jonas, who had removed to this neighborhood about two years before that date, married for the third time in 1756, his bride on this occasion being Hannah, widow of Wm. Lewis, of Haverford. She died after a brief marriage life, and Jonas, being as susceptible to the blandishments of attractive widows as was the late Tony Weller, again took unto himself a helpmate, in 1763, the fourth wife of his bosom being Mary, widow of John Lee, of Chester, and daughter of John and Abigail Yarnall, of Edgmont. By his fourth wife Jonas had one son, Dr. Jonas Preston, one of the most finished characters the annals of our Commonwealth can furnish. The elder Jonas, although he may not have had an eye to accumulation, yet out of his four speculations in matrimony he contrived to wed three widows, each with considerable estates. He died in New Castle, Delaware, February 1, 1772. One year previous to his death, Jonas Preston, Sr., and Mary, his wife, (January 16, 1771,) by deed of gift, conveyed the house and grounds to Thomas Sharpless and Martha, his



wife. Martha was Jonas Preston, Sr.'s daughter by his first wife, Jane Paxson.

Jonas Preston, the younger, was born in the old dwelling, January 25, 1764. He read medicine with Dr. Bond, of Philadelphia, attended lectures at the Pennsylvania Hospital, and after the usual course of medical instruction attainable at that time in the United States, he went to Europe, graduating at the University of Edinburgh in 1785, and subsequently attended lectures at Paris. On his return to this country, he located at Wilmington, Delaware, for a short time, and removed to Georgia, but returning to Chester he entered energetically into the duties of his profession, and soon acquired an extensive practice in Chester and Delaware counties, confining himself almost entirely to obstetrics, in which special department he soon established a reputation extending beyond the limits of the territory mentioned. During the Whisky Insurrection, in 1794, he volunteered as surgeon in the army. This caused him to be expelled from meeting, but he frequently said, Friends might disown him, but he would not disown them. He represented Delaware county for eight terms in the Legislature, from 1794 to 1802, and in 1808 he was elected State Senator, where he was distinguished for his liberal views and sagacious foresight. About 1817, he removed from Chester to Philadelphia, but previously was elected President of the Bank of Delaware County, succeeding John Newbold. While here he was an ardent advocate of all measures having for their object agricultural improvements. After his removal to Philadelphia he enjoyed a large and remunerative practice, but notwithstanding his busy life he had time to take an active part in many benevolent objects. He was a constant visitor to that end at the Pennsylvania Hospital and Friends' Asylum, at Frankford. He was also a Director of the Pennsylvania Bank, Schuylkill Navigation Company and other corporations. During his long professional career he had so frequently seen distress among the honest poorer classes, that when he died, Monday, April 4, 1836, he left by will four hundred thousand dollars "towards founding an institution for the relief of indigent married women of good character, distinct and unconnected with any hospital, where they may be received and provided with proper obstetric aid for their delivery, with suitable attendance and comforts during



their period of weakness and susceptibility, which ensues." Under this provision in his will was established Preston's Retreat, in Philadelphia, one of the noblest institutions of enlarged charity within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Dr. Preston was buried in Friends' grave yard, on Edgmont avenue, in this city, but his remains have been removed therefrom in recent years.

William Sharpless, and Ann, his wife, March 12, 1806, conveyed the old house to Jonas Eyre, the nephew by marriage, of the grantors. His father, Isaac Eyre, having married Ann Preston, a sister of Martha, William Sharpless' first wife. Jonas Eyre, married in 1761, but his wife died a few years afterwards, leaving two sons, and the widower married the second time, November 11, 1801, Susanna, daughter of Joshua and Mary Pusey. By the second wife he had two sons who grew to manhood, William and Joshua Pusey Eyre. Jonas Eyre died March 21, 1836, and by his will, June 4, 1834, devised the real estate under consideration to the two named sons in equal shares.

Joshua P. Eyre and his brother William, early in life, embarked in business in Chester, for many years keeping a general country store, and at the same time were interested in freighting in the "Jonas Preston," the Chester packet, owned by them. They accumulated large means, and at one time were all-powerful in politics in the county. Joshua P. Eyre, during the years 1840-'41, was a member of the Legislature; he was a Director of the Delaware County Bank, and one of the Directors of the Delaware County Insurance Company, as was also his brother William.

William Eyre married Anna Louisa, daughter of Dr. Job H. Terrill. She died leaving one son, Joshua P. Eyre, Jr. By his second wife, Rebecca Pusey, daughter of Caleb Churchman, he had three children, Caleb C., William P., and Rebecca Eyre, the latter now Mrs. William Wilson. William Eyre died many years before his brother, Joshua P., whose death occurred April 1, 1872. In the distribution of the estate, the old house became the property of Joshua P. Eyre, Jr., who lived in the ancestral home for many years, and now, although he has built a stately dwelling almost immediately in front of the old house, he steadfastly refuses to raze the antiquated structure to the ground, but keeps it in repairs be-



cause of the many recollections and memories associated with the family homestead.

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*The Old Llōyd House, Second and Edgmont Avenue.*

David Lloyd obtained title for the green, or the church land lying between the creek and Welsh street, and south of Neeles Laerson's tract of ground to the river Delaware, December 28, 1693, by deed from the church wardens of the Swedish congregation, "at Wiccocœ," which act on his part is criticised severely by Rev. Mr. Ross, in his letter, June 21, 1714, to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts: "Ye Glebe lands," he said, alluding to this tract, "was irreligiously sold by some Swedes under ye name of church wardens, to a powerful Quaker, who now plows and sows it, and disposes of it at his pleasure, but 'tis hoped his precarious title will be one day inquired into, and the Church restored to her rights again." This tract, which had been given to the Swedes' church by Aringardt "Pappegoya," could not be wrenched out of the strong grasp of David Lloyd, and notwithstanding the determined opposition of Jasper Yeates, he succeeded in having the land confirmed to him by the Proprietary Government.

That the house at the south-east corner of Edgmont avenue and Second street was built by David Lloyd seems absolutely certain, since in his deed to William Pickles, May 4, 1703, it is specifically set out in the indenture that the house was at that time erected. Its appearance supports the statement, for its architecture marks it as cotemporaneous with the Logan and Hoskins houses. Pickles died seized of the premises, and his executors, Jasper Yeates and Thomas Powell, March 26, 1709, sold the house to John Baldwin, and the latter, by will, April 2, 1731, devised the estate to his





grandsons, John Baldwin and John Pierce. These devisees, Baldwin's wife, Anna, joining in the deed, April 4, 1758, conveyed the property to Jonas Preston, the father of Dr. Jonas Preston, which family I have mentioned fully in the account of the Thomas Barton House. After the old dwelling came into the possession of Jonas Preston, he built a wharf on the creek, part of the stone work now standing, and on the site of the present ice house by the creek side, he erected a stone store house which stood until after the middle of this century, when it had degenerated into a place to keep swine. Jonas Preston died intestate, and March 16, 1773, Martha, a daughter, who had married Thomas Sharpless, took this property at its appraised value in proceeding in partition of her father's estate, and four days after she sold the premises to John Wall, a merchant of Philadelphia, who had married Hannah Grubb, widow of Richard Flower, of Chichester. The purchaser never lived in the house, but after May 16, 1777, John Flower, (Wall's step-son) on his marriage to Elizabeth Beethom, at the Chester Meeting, resided in the old building. It is traditionally stated that Elizabeth Flower was so alarmed when the battle of Brandywine was fought—the noise of the distant cannonading could be heard in Chester—that she was taken ill, and so serious were the effects of her fright that she lingered a long time on the eve of dissolution, and died in October of the following year. This blow was so serious to her husband that it tinged his remaining years with a sadness that he could never shake off or overcome. Who occupied the house thereafter I have been unable to learn, but February 20, 1782, John Wall and wife sold the estate to William Siddons, subject to £6 4s. 0d., the dower of the widow of Jonas Preston, and at her death £103 6s 8d., the principal, to the latter's heirs.

William Siddons, during the latter part of the eighteenth century, was unfortunately charged with the murder of a peddler of jewelry, who was found with his throat cut near Munday's run, and the body robbed of all the money the dead man was supposed to have had about him at the time of the homicide. When the crime was perpetrated and Siddons was under suspicion, a rhymster of rude verse of that day, composed a ballad, beginning :



“ At Munday's Run, near Chester town,  
Old Siddons knocked the peddler down,  
And robbed him of his golden store  
And left him weltering in his gore.”

Siddons was arrested, indicted and tried, but on the hearing of the case he was enabled to prove a complete and uncontradicted alibi, while the prosecution was predicated purely on circumstantial evidence which failed to connect the accused in any direct way with the commission of the crime. The fact that he was charged by some of his neighbors with a felony of such hideous character embittered his entire after life. William Siddons died June 22, 1820, and by his will he devised his estate for life to his wife, with remainder to his children. The old house after his death was occupied by Hannah Pyewell, Samuel Pullen and other tenants until October 19, 1867, when William H. Lewis, Trustee, appointed by the Orphans' Court of Delaware county to make sale of the property, conveyed it to Lewis Lodomus. During the latter part of Mr. Lodomus' ownership of the house the premises were occupied as a restaurant by John Hanley, a well known citizen of Chester, from whom the Hanley Fire Company derived its name. “Jack” Hanley, who in the latter ten years of his life was totally blind, was in all probability a descendant from John of the same cognomen, who was a prominent man and owner of large estates in Chester, about the middle of the eighteenth century. The dwelling part of the ancient building is now occupied by Elwood Long as a residence, and Emma Hewitt has a grocery in the store room at the corner of the streets. Lewis Lodomus conveyed the premises to Albert L. Bonnaffon, August 7, 1875, and he in turn sold the property to Jonathan Pennell, who now owns it.



*The Ashbridge House.*

The ancient dwelling standing on the east side of Edgmont avenue, between Second and Graham streets, is partly built on the site of the House of Defense. The ground on which it stands was part of the estate of Jasper Yeates, who devised it to certain of his heirs, for July 13, 1728, George McCall and Ann, his wife, (Jasper's eldest daughter) and John Yeates, by release, granted this house and other lots to George Ashbridge. The latter was a Friend, who as early as 1688 emigrated, as a young man, to Pennsylvania and settled near Chester. Who it was built the house I fail to learn, but in all probability George McCall or John Yeates did, for the title to the ground was in these parties fully eight years after the death of Jasper Yeates, before they parted with the premises. Ashbridge, by his will, March 1, 1747, devised the estate to his second son, George, who seems to have been an adroit politician, for, elected to the General Assembly in 1743, he managed to maintain the confidence of Friends (he being one of the society) until 1773. How, for thirty consecutive years he contrived to avoid committing himself on many of the votes taken during the long French war, which appropriated men and money to carry on that struggle, is incomprehensible, but in the latter year the society "report they have taken an oppty with one of the representatives in Assembly and that he do not apprehend culpable," and yet Judge Futhey, in his History of Chester county states that "it is somewhat singular that his vote on some of the questions was not called up for condemnation by the society to which he belonged." That he was active in the Assembly and must have been a man of more than the general average out of which representatives are made, is evidenced by the perusal of the Journal of Samuel Foulke, (vol 5, Penna. Mag. of History, pp. 64, 65, 68 and 71.) The second George Ashbridge dying seized of the estate, the Orphans' Court of Chester county, in proceedings in partition adjudged the premises to his eldest son, George Ashbridge, the third of that name in the chain of title, who sold it May 5, 1797, to Dorothy Smith and Zedekiah Wyatt Graham, sister and brother of



Henry Hale Graham, as joint tenants. Dorothy, who had married John Smith, of Lower Chichester, 12th mo., 4, 1783, was a widow at this time. Zedekiah Graham was a wealthy bachelor, and the brother and sister lived together in this house. Of the brother, Deborah Logan writes: "He was a man of such integrity and worth that I have heard him characterized as an Israelite, indeed, in whom there was no guile." The affection between them was so marked that in his will he gave to her the income of his whole estate during life, while she devised to her brother one-third of her property absolutely. Zedekiah Graham died of yellow fever in 1798, and his sister, who nursed him in his illness was attacked by the scourge, and sent for her nephew, William Graham, who had abandoned his home and fled to the country to escape the pestilence. It is related that the latter sat on his horse in the street, while the nurse from the second story window informed him as to the disposition his aunt wished to make of her estate; thus the will was written, attached to a string and drawn up to the chamber of the dying woman who refused to permit any of her kin to visit her and thereby encounter the risk of infection. By her will, November 17, 1798, (the whole title to the house having vested in her by survivorship) she devised it to her nephew and four nieces in equal parts. Three of the nieces and the nephew conveyed their interests to Catharine G., the fourth niece, and wife of Capt. Thomas Robinson, in October, 1812.

Thomas Robinson was a captain in the merchants' service, but during the Tripolitan war a Lieutenant under Commodore Preble when that officer, in command of the American squadron bombarded Tripoli, June 21, 1804. Robinson was in charge of one of the bombs—vessels carrying mortars—on that occasion; the shrouds of his vessel were shot away, and her hull so shattered that it was with the utmost difficulty she could be kept above water. During the war of 1812, he was a volunteer Lieutenant in the Navy, and was on board the frigate "President" when the latter vessel was captured. As will be remembered, Commodore Decatur, in command of the "President," went to sea from New York, January 14, 1815, and at daylight the following morning the American officer discovered that the English squadron, comprising the seventy-gun ship "Majestic," the fifty-guns frigates "Endymion," "Po-





monæ" and "Tenedos" were in chase of the vessel. By noon Decatur found that he was outsailing all of the enemy's ships except the "Endymion," which vessel had steadily gained on him, until at five o'clock in the evening that frigate had obtained a position on his starboard quarter, and opened a destructive fire on the sails and rigging of his vessel. Decatur was compelled to bear up and engage the enemy in the hope of disabling her before the remaining vessels could arrive to her assistance. A warm action of two hours and a half followed, which resulted in the British frigate dropping astern, her guns silenced and her masts gone by the board. During the latter part of the battle with the "Endymion," Robinson had charge of the trumpet. It is stated that the first, fourth and fifth Lieutenants on the "President" were killed or wounded, and Decatur called for Lieutenant Gallagher to take the trumpet, but Robinson, "hearing the hail, came up from the gun deck," whereupon Decatur said: "Take the trumpet, sir," and Robinson took command of the deck. The American frigate made sail and attempted to escape, but the English squadron had come within gunshot of the "President" while that vessel was engaged in the encounter with the "Endymion," and being crippled by the heavy fire she had sustained, Decatur was compelled to strike his flag to the British frigates "Tenedos" and "Pomone."

Captain Robinson, after his discharge as a prisoner of war—for the naval action was fought after the treaty of peace had been signed—returned to the merchant service, but the news of the loss of the American packet ship "Albion" on the coast of Ireland, April 21, 1822, as well as the explosion of the steamboat "Essex" in New York harbor, under his own command, and the frightful loss of life on those occasions, so impressed Robinson with the responsibility appertaining to the office of captain of a vessel that he refused ever again to take command of a ship.

Catharine G. Robinson, his wife, died January 24, 1836, and by her will, February 27, 1834, devised the house to her daughter, Sarah P. Combs.

Sarah P. (Robinson) Combs, in whom the property vested, lived in the old house for many years, and vacating it, she rented the dwelling to John Harris, a shipbuilder, and after several tenants had occupied it, the premises were leased to Mrs. Mary A. Wheat-



on, mother of Chief of Police, Lewis D. Wheaton, who resided in the house for seventeen years, and vacated it only about a year ago, when the old building was rented as an office by Messrs. Black & Worrell, for their cocoa matting works. Sarah P. Combs died March 5, 1865, and the title to the old Ashbridge house vested in her children, who still own the premises.

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### *Lamokin Hall.*

The original Salkeld House, built about 1708 by John Salkeld, Sr., as it now stands in the way of Norris street, between Third street and the P. W. & B. Railroad, must shortly be removed to make room for improvements on that thoroughfare. During the last half century it was used as the tenant house on the Kenilworth estate after John W. Ashmead built the large mansion, in 1838—since torn down—and also by Dr. William Young, who purchased the estate in 1849. The Perkins' House, or as it was known to a past generation, "Lamokin Hall," was erected many years afterwards by John Salkeld, a son of the noted original emigrant of that name.

John Bristow, to whom a large tract of land was granted by patent from the Proprietary, died seized of the estate, and his son John, an edge tool maker, February 25, 1702-3, conveyed to Henry Wooley, a goodly number of these acres. The latter in turn, January 27, 1706-7, conveyed the premises to John Salkeld, a man of means and education, whose ready wit, and quickness in repartee, made him noted in his generation, and many of his telling rejoinders are recounted even to this day. Salkeld visited this country in 1700, before he settled permanently here, and on the 9th of 7th month, 1705, he and his wife Agnes (Powley) sailed for Philadelphia. In the following year he purchased the property mentioned and came to this vicinity to reside. He was an effective preacher,



and made many religious visits to neighboring meetings in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, and several times to New England, Long Island, and on one occasion to Great Britain, and the West Indies. He, as I have already stated, was a natural humorist, and a few of the stories which have descended to our own time will repay narrating :

One day Salkeld was wearing a new hat that had a button and loop, then quite fashionable, and he was remonstrated with by a Friend for adhering to the usages and customs of the world. John tore off the offending part of his apparel, remarking: "If my friend's religion consists of a button and a loop I would not give a button and a loop for it." On another occasion, when at a meeting of Friends, the speaker who was addressing the audience being so tedious that many in the assembly were almost asleep, Salkeld sprang to his feet, exclaiming: "Fire! fire!" Every one was awake immediately, and many put the query: "Where?" "In hell!" responded John, "to burn up the drowsy and unconverted." After he returned from a religious journey to New Jersey, he said: "I have breakfasted with the Ladds, dined with the Lords, and slept with the Hoggs," the names of the families that entertained him. One time as he walked from his corn field, a Friend, by the name of Cloud passing by, said: "John, thee will have a good crop of corn." Salkeld afterwards relating the circumstance, stated that he heard a voice coming out of a Cloud, saying: "John, thee will have a good crop of corn." He rode at one time a horse with a blaze in its face, and a neighbor who thought to be merry with him, said: "John, thy horse looks pale in the face." "Yes, he does," he replied; "and if thee had looked as long through a halter as he has, thee would be pale in the face too." He was at times forgetful, and on one occasion when visiting Friends in New Jersey, he took his daughter Agnes with him, riding, as women then often did, on a pillion, strapped on the saddle behind her father. After the assembly dispersed he entirely forgot his daughter, and mounting his horse rode away leaving her at the meeting house.

He was personally about medium size, but his wife, Agnes, was very tall and muscular, hence her descendants, who are all noticeably tall, inherit this characteristic from her. John Salkeld died September 20, 1739, and by will devised the farm of one hundred



acres, on which his house stood, to his son, David Salkeld, and left the plot of ground whereon Lamokin Hall was subsequently built, to his wife, Agnes, and she, by will, 7th mo., 11, 1748, devised the estate to John Salkeld, the younger. The latter, in 1731, had married Elizabeth Worrall, who became the mother of thirteen children. John Salkeld, the younger, by will, December 13, 1776, devised his real estate to his eight children, (the others had died in chilehood) in equal parts, his whole estate, however, being charged with his wife's support. In the distribution of the property the land under consideration was allotted to his son Peter, who built the western end of Lamokin Hall. December 7, 1789, he sold the property to Jacob Peterson. The latter conveyed it to James Withey who made the addition to the eastern end of the old house about 1796.

It will be seen that there is an error in my account of the Columbia House, where I say that Mary Withey had purchased this property. That statement was based on tradition. In the deed from Robert Fairlamb, Sheriff, April 12, 1819, to Charles Justice and William Graham, he states that the estate had been taken in execution as the property of James Withey.

The purchasers interchanged deeds, dated February 27, 1821, by which Charles Justice acquired absolute title to the land south of the Post road, and William Graham that north of the same highway. The latter having trust money belonging to his sisters in his hands at the time of his death, Lamokin Hall was in the distribution of his estate, transferred to his sister Henrietta, who had married Richard Flower. The latter was the owner of the noted "Chester Mills," now Upland, and while there made several successful ventures in shipping flour to Europe. When the misunderstanding existed between France and the United States, previous to 1800, he, in connection with his brother John, his half brother Reece Wall, and his brother-in-law, Capt. John McKeever, loaded three vessels with flour and cleared them for Liverpool. All three of the ships were captured by French cruisers and condemned in French prize courts, although one of the vessels was within sixty miles of the Delaware bay when taken. During the war of 1812, the American troops were instructed to impress all the flour at Chester mills for the army, but the Government paid full value for





all that was taken. The loss Mr. Flower sustained by French spoliation, however, so cramped him that he was never able again to carry on business largely, and, indeed, that incident seemed to crush out his desire to seek a foreign market for his breadstuffs. He reached an advanced age, dying in 1843, in his eighty-fourth year. Mr. Flower was at one time County Commissioner. He and his fellow commissioners were told that they were entitled to \$1 a day as compensation, and that if they made a visit to one locality to look after public improvements, and the same day another locality was visited on a similar errand, the commissioners were accustomed to charge two days' fees. Acting on the traditional custom, the commissioners for that year managed to crowd five hundred and eighty days into the twelve months.

John W. Ashmead, who had built the house on the farm adjoining, after the death of his father-in-law, Mr. Flower, purchased the estate, June 3, 1844, from Hon. Edward Darlington, trustee to sell the property, for the purpose solely of adding a trifle over an acre to the lawn of his dwelling, so that his house should be located in the centre of the lawn. After thoroughly repairing Lamokin Hall, he sold it September 5, 1846, to Abram R. Perkins, for \$6,000. The latter had been a successful merchant in Philadelphia, but his purchase of the property at that price, thirty-six years ago, was, perhaps, in the shaping of events one of the most fortunate transactions in his business career, for the premises in that period have so increased in value that it alone has made his estate worth thirty times what it originally cost him.



*Jacob Howell House.*

The small stone building on the east side of Edgmont avenue, above Third street, which is jammed in between the northern end of the City Hotel, and an addition to the Howell House itself, made by Isaac Eyre, now used as a Chinese laundry, has had comparatively few owners. The land was patented by William Peun to Randle Vernon, March 4, 1681, and the latter conveyed the estate, the lot on the west and one on the east side of Edgmont avenue, to Jacob Howell, June 16, 1714. On the lot thus conveyed on the east side of the street, Howell built the stone structure and lived there until May 13, 1764, when he conveyed the estate to Isaac Eyre, who built the brick addition to the north of the dwelling. Justice Eyre for many years kept a general store in the old building at the south-east corner of Third street and Edgmont avenue, at the time he was carrying on business at his tan yard across the street. In 1798, when the yellow fever was raging in Chester, a woman came to Isaac Eyre, who was then Burgess, demanding that he should remove a person ill with the scourge from her house, and threatened, if he did not, she would bring the sick lad to the home of the Burgess. "If you do, I'll shoot you before you cross my doorstep," said the latter. 'Squire Eyre was not afraid personally of the disease, for he had nursed several persons who were ill with it; but he was determined, if he could prevent it, the fever should not be introduced into his family, which was an unusually large one. He is said to have been more than equal to Horace Greeley in penmanship, particularly when he wrote hurriedly, for frequently, after the letters got cold, the 'Squire himself could not read his own chirography, as is said to have happened with Rufus Choate and others distinguished for their eccentric handwriting. It is stated that on one occasion when a case was being heard before Judge Cox, who was somewhat irascible during the trial of a suit, and the matter being an appeal from a judgment given by 'Squire Eyre, his docket was sent for. The counsel who desired to use it opened at the name of the case; that he could make out, but the inscription on the Rosetta stone was not more difficult for him to decipher than were the characters in the words written within that docket. He



twisted it in all directions, but without avail; not a word could he make out. The Judge at last nervously said: "Hand me the docket: I never saw writing I could not read." The bulky volume was carried up to the bench, and His Honor dropped his glasses on the bridge of his nose and gazed earnestly on the page. The task was more than he had expected. His face grew scarlet, and the lawyers tittered, while it is said even the tipstaffs smiled audibly. "Send for 'Squire Eyre:'" at last His Honor said, hotly. It was done, and the Justice presented himself in Court. "Is this your docket, 'Squire?" said Judge Cox. "I suppose so, but I can tell if I can look at it," quickly answered the 'Squire. The Judge handed down the docket, and said: "Be good enough to read us your entry in this case." "Certainly," replied the Justice, and he took out the large spectacles then recently invented, called temple glasses, which were exceeding fashionable, and looked carefully over the page. Several minutes elapsed, not a word escaped the 'Squire, and the symptoms of a general laugh began to manifest themselves throughout the audience. Then the 'Squire drew himself up and said: "May it please the Court, the law requires me to keep a docket, and make an entry of cases heard before me, for the benefit of this Court and the public. I have done that, but I fail to learn that any law compels me to read that entry for any person; that is the duty of the Court." And that docket entry never was read, at least not before the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware county.

After the death of 'Squire Eyre, his daughters lived in the house until 1874, when it was sold to Stephen Cloud, who now owns it.

The house on the opposite side of the way, where F. J. Hinkson, Jr., has his leather store, was built by 'Squire Eyre. The exact time I do not know, but March 25, 1826, William Neal, the schoolmaster at the old school house, torn down in 1874, bought it from the heirs of Isaac Eyre, and March 23, 1833, he sold it to Job Rulon, who, in turn, March 23, 1870, conveyed the estate to Frederick J. Hinkson, who by will devised it to his sons, Henry and Frederick J. Hinkson, Jr.



*The Gray House.*

Although the substantial brick structure at the north-west corner of Fifth and Market streets is not very ancient, it having been built not more than forty years ago, yet the old house, which formerly occupied part of the site of the present building, as well as the house in which Mrs. Dr. Gray still resides has connected with it much interesting history appertaining to the olden time and former residents of Chester.

The land on which it stands was part of the grant of twenty acres of land confirmed to James Sandelands, the elder, by patent May 31, 1686. James Sandelands, it seems, sold the property to Roger Jackson, but died before he effectually conveyed the premises to Jackson. The latter, in his will, dated January 13, 1711, devised this lot, whereon he had built a house, to his "loving friend, Joseph Baker, the elder, of Edgmont, \* \* and Thomas Powell, of Providence, \* \* and their heirs my dwelling house and lots of land \* \* situate, lying and being in the said town of Chester, which James Sandelands in his life time sold but not effectually conveyed to me, in trust, to sell the estate for the payment of debts and divide the residue thereof equally amongst such or so many of my relations in England as shall within seven years after my decease come over here." However, Jonas Sandelands and Mary, his wife, by deed, March 20, 1712, conveyed the premises, of which he was then in occupancy, to Roger Jackson, reserving a yearly rent of six shillings payable on the 25th day of March in each and every year forever. Thomas Powell died before Roger Jackson, and Joseph Baker took upon himself the duties of the trust, but he dying, left his son, John Baker, as executor of his estate, who, as such executor, October 4, 1717, conveyed a part of the estate of Roger Jackson to William Backingham. The latter, August 14, 1721, conveyed the premises to John Price, who had before Roger Jackson's death, purchased from him, May 26, 1715, a part of the land conveyed to him by Sandelands. On March 25, 1724, John Price purchased from John Baker the remaining part of the Jackson estate. Price died in 1726. By his will, February, 1726, he left to





his wife, Catharine, one-half interest in his real property. The widow married William Frehorn, who, by his will, May 2, 1736, left his estate to his wife, and she subsequently intermarried with John Hanley, who, with Catharine, his wife, by a deed, January 29, 1742-3, conveyed to Joseph Parker the interest of Catharine in the estate, and Joseph Parker, by deed dated February 9, of the same year, conveyed the half interest to John Hanley. Catharine Hanley having died, the widower married a second time, and by his will, May 12, 1769, he devised unto his wife, Eleanor, the lot bounded by Fifth street, Market street and Edgmont avenue, excepting a part to the north end of the triangles belonging to Henry Hale Graham, and a lot which he had sold to Caleb Cobourn, during his lifetime. Eleanor Hanley subsequently married John Hogan, a kinsman of John Hanley, to whom the latter by his will had devised the brick house on Fifth street to the east of the Columbia House and now a part of that hotel. The interest of John Price, the heir of John Price, the elder, was absorbed into that of the Hogans, and a mortgage was given him February 10, 1772, covering the property under consideration as well as the brick house on Fifth street. On May 24, 1774, John Hogan and Eleanor, his wife, mortgaged both the properties mentioned to Hugh McIlvain, for £50, and defaulting in the payment, Nicholas Fairlamb, Sheriff, sold the lot on the north side of Fifth and Market streets, May 9, 1791, to William Richardson Atlie. The latter married Margareta, the only daughter of Gen. Anthony Wayne, and having been appointed one of the Justices and Clerk of the Courts of Delaware county in 1789, came to this city in 1790, and resided in the old house. Atlie having built a stable and improved the property, on March 25, 1795, sold it to John Crosby, of Ridley, who, November 23, of the same year, conveyed it to James Withey; the latter in turn, December 15, 1796, sold it to Dr. William Martin.

Dr. Martin, the grandfather of John Hill Martin, the author of the "History of Chester and its Vicinity," was a man of much prominence. He was a physician as well as a lawyer, a Justice of the Peace, and Chief Burgess of Chester, and in April, 1798, when Washington passed through Chester on his way to Philadelphia, Dr. Martin made the address of congratulation to the President on behalf of the town. It was in this year that the yellow fever visited



Chester as a fearful scourge. Dr. Martin, it is stated, was much alarmed, and seemed to feel that he would die of the pestilence. It is said that he frequently rode to the windows of the houses where persons were sick with the fever, would learn the condition of the patient, and prescribe and furnish the medicine without entering the dwelling.

In September of that year, however, a British vessel was lying off Chester with all hands down with the fever. Dr. Martin was sent for: he attended, and as he had feared, he contracted the disease from which he died, September 28, 1798. His wife, Eleanor Martin, administered, and by order of Court she sold the premises January 13, 1799, to John Flower, in trust, to the use of Hannah Wall, and at her death to her children, John Flower, Richard Flower, Jemima McKeever and Reese Wall, and in the event of the death of Reese Wall, without issue and intestate, to his half-brothers and sister in equal parts. Reese Wall was drowned in the Delaware bay in the early part of the present century, and Hannah Wall died February 24, 1810. On February 24, 1824, Richard Flower, of Chester Mills, (now Upland) and wife, conveyed his one-third interest to his brother John, who, by his will, February 14, 1825, devised his two-third interest in this property to William G. Flower, who was for many years afterwards the lessee of the Chester Mills, and whose almost miraculous escape from drowning during the freshet of 1843, is still remembered by the older residents of this city.

Jemima McKeever, grandmother of the late John Burrows McKeever, and of Harriet B. McKeever, the authoress, of this city, conveyed her interest in the estate, June 10, 1826, to William G. Flower. During the latter's ownership of the house it was occupied by Archibald T. Dick, until he built the old Eyre mansion, now the Chester Republican League House. On April 15, 1834, William G. Flower sold the premises to Joseph M. G. Lescure. The latter in 1825 had purchased the material and printing establishment of the *Post Boy*, from Eliphalet B. Worthington, changing the title of the paper to the *Upland Union*, or *Delaware County, Kingsessing and Blockley Advertiser*, a folio sheet, five columns to a page, which paper he continued to publish in the Borough until 1838, when he sold it to Joseph Williams and Charles T. Coates.



The office of publication was in the frame building then standing on Fifth street, west of his dwelling, after he purchased the property on which Mrs. Gray's house now stands. The *Upland Union* was strongly Democratic in its leanings, and the late Y. S. Walter, in the *Republican*, always alluded to it as the "Upland Onion," while Lescure, in return, dubbed the *Delaware County Republican*, then published in Darby, as the "Darby Ram." Joseph M. G. Lescure and Catharine, his wife, August 15, 1836, sold the property to Dr. William Gray, whose widow still owns it. Shortly after Dr. Gray acquired title to the premises, and while he was absent several months on a visit to recruit his health at the springs of Virginia, his wife caused the old building to be torn down and the present house to be erected in its stead. Peter Gamble was the builder. The doctor, on his return, was agreeably surprised to find that in his absence a new mansion, ample in its proportions and finished in a style of elegance for that day, had taken the place of the ancient stone dwelling which had formerly occupied a part of the site of the new structure.

Dr. William Gray, a member of the well-known family of Gray, of Gray's Ferry, was for many years one of the most noted men of the county. In early life he had gone to his uncle, Thomas Steel, a miller in Darby, to learn that business, but finding the occupation uncongenial he abandoned it, and studied medicine under his relation, Dr. Warfield, of Maryland. After he graduated, he married Martha Bonsall, and settled in Chester, where for many years he had a large and lucrative practice as a physician. He died May 12, 1864. The doctor will be recalled to the recollection of the old residents of Chester as one whose visits, whether in the discharge of the duties of his profession or of those of social life, were always received with pleasure by the household to whom they were made.



*The Turner (Shaw) House.*

I thought until very recently that part of the old house standing at the north-east corner of Third street and Concord avenue, dated back over a hundred and fifty years, but I have learned from Mrs. Shaw that the old Turner House was torn down by James Shaw, in 1796, and the eastern portion of the ancient structure was erected by him at that time, while the western addition was built in 1827, when it was the estate of Jane (Sharpless) Shaw, who married a second time, in 1808, David Bevan. We know that John Salkeld, Sr., in his will, in 1733, devised the property to his son, Thomas, and the latter, January 26, 1741, sold it to William Turner, who is designated in the deed as "merchant." Previous to this purchase, Turner occupied the dwelling thereon erected as Thomas Salkeld's tenant, for in 1739, Bampfylde Moore Carew mentions that in that year he called on Mrs. Turner and obtained money from her, as stated elsewhere in this volume. The dwelling and ground in all probability was acquired by Edward Turner by descent, for in 1770, the premises were taken in execution by Jesse Maris, Sheriff, and sold as the property of Edward Turner, May 28, of that year, to Samuel Shaw. The purchaser was the first of his name in Chester county, having been born in Lincolnshire, in 1707, and previous to his leaving England was in the military service of his King, for in a petition he presented to the Justice of the Courts, March 26, 1764, asking to be relieved from the duties of Constable of Chester township, he set forth that fact, as well as that he has formerly dwelt in Philadelphia, where he was commissioned by the Governor as a Major and Captain of a company of soldiers, in which capacity he instructed not only his own command, but "did discipline several other companies as well, without any reward from the Government." At the time the office of Constable was appurtenant to the land, and each real estate owner had to discharge that duty in turn, as will be apparent from an examination of the old records at West Chester. In 1752, Samuel Shaw owned the noted Chester Mills, now Upland, and erected a dam breast across the creek in that year, as appears from several affidavits in





possession of the Crozer family among many old papers and maps relating to the title of the mill site and lands appertaining thereto. Samuel Shaw died September 20, 1783, intestate, and the property at Concord road and Third street was awarded to his son, John Shaw, by order of Court, in partition of his estate. John Shaw, November 10, 1786, conveyed the estate to James Shaw, his half-brother; John, the elder son, being a child of Samuel Shaw's first wife, Mary, and James a son of his second wife, Hannah, daughter of Tristram Smith. It is related that when James Shaw married Jane Sharpless, daughter of Thomas and Martha (Preston) Sharpless, October 23, 1796, the newly married couple occupied for a time the Black Bear Inn, (now the Hinkson property at Penn and Third streets) as a dwelling, while the old Turner House was being torn down to make room for the new structure. James Shaw was a noted sportsman in his day, and on one occasion he shot in an afternoon seventy-eight ducks. He used a double-barrelled gun, and fired at the birds that sat on the water, and discharged the second barrel as they rose, with the result above stated. So remarkable was it then thought that the fact was noted on the stock of his gun, an account being cut in the wood. After his death this gun was given by his widow to William Graham. James Shaw died early in the present century, leaving a will by which he appointed Ephraim Pearson and Jane Shaw, (his widow) executors of his estate with power to sell the realty. In exercise of that authority the executors named, March 26, 1803, conveyed the premises to Wm. Graham, and he, May 2, the same year, transferred the estate to Jane Shaw, the widow, previous to her marriage with David Bevan. Mrs (Shaw) Bevan, by her will, December 5, 1843, devised the estate to her son, Samuel Shaw. The latter married Mary Ann, daughter of John and Isabella Eyre, of Upper Chichester, who, surviving her husband twenty years, is yet hale and hearty and still resides in the old homestead, the property having been devised to her by her late husband, September 5, 1840, his will having been made nearly twenty-two years before his death, which occurred May 9, 1862. Samuel Shaw was a farmer, and appointed a Justice of the Peace, and although he was an old-fashioned gentleman, punctilious in the observance of all the ceremonies of social intercourse, he was always courteous to young and old alike, and is



gratefully remembered by several of our citizens—themselves now verging on to three-score and ten—for his consideration of the finer feelings of those who at that time were impulsive young men. Samuel and Mary Ann Shaw had two sons and a daughter. James, the eldest, was for many years a merchant in Chester, and is to-day a successful manufacturer at New Castle, Delaware, where he married Virginia, daughter of the late Major Joseph Carr. John Eyre Shaw, the second son, is a member of the Philadelphia bar, and, having devoted his attention to patent cases solely, has attained marked prominence in his profession, and a large and remunerative practice in the special line he has chosen. Emily Ann Shaw married William M. Burgin, of Philadelphia, and resides in that city.

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### *The James Barber House.*

On the north side of Second street west of Market stands an old brick house, with pent roof extending over the window of the first story, which building has in recent years been used as a bottling establishment and a restaurant. Its exact age I do not know, but the lot was conveyed by David Lloyd, James Lowns, and Susanna, his wife, to James Barber, November 27-28, 1712. This James Barber was, I presume, a brother of Robert Barber, the early settler of that name, who in 1690 married Hannah Ogden, and it may have been that it was Robert, a son of this James, to whom Robert Barber, the settler, devised his estate. At all events James Barber built the house, and in the deed, September 13, 1732, to Thomas Cummings, it is designated as "the house where James Barber now dwells" The purchaser was a member of the society of Friends, for in a declaration of trust, May 18, 1758, respecting a lot of ground on the east side of Edgmont avenue, south of Fourth street, which had been conveyed, August 26, 1757, to several persons by John Baldwin "with the intent that a school house shall



be erected and built upon the said lot in the said township of Chester," Thomas Cummings is mentioned as one of the grantees, and is designated as "cordwainer." He had, however, previous to that date been a member of the Legislature, for in 1735, and subsequently for ten terms he was one of the eight members returned from Chester county to the General Assembly. He died previous to August 22, 1766, for his will was probated at that time, whereby he devised all his estate to his wife, Alice. She survived her husband many years, and by will, June 2, 1785, devised the estate to her nieces, Hannah Cummings and Elizabeth Pedrick, in equal shares, and they in turn, October 26, 1788, sold the house to Adam Grubb.

The latter by will, March 9, 1790, devised the premises to Mary Grubb, his wife, with remainder to his cousins, John Grubb, Sr., and Isaac Grubb. The remainder men outlived the widow, for May 12, 1794, they sold the property to Jonas Preston, and he conveyed it, January 17, 1806, to Jonas Eyre, while the latter, March 28, 1811, transferred it to Thomas B. Dick, from whom the property descended to his son, Archibald T. Dick. Almost all the owners of this old house have been fully referred to in previous sketches, and it is unnecessary to recapitulate what is there said of them, and as respecting the tenants of the dwelling, I have learned but little of interest. Previous and subsequently to 1824, George W. Hill, who was a clerk in the Bank of Delaware County, resided there, and was succeeded by Zedekiah W. Flower, who had married a daughter of Archibald T. Dick, and from 1831 to 1835 it was the parsonage of St. Paul's Church, being occupied as such by Dr. John Baker Clemson, while rector of that parish. He was followed by George W. Piper, who, after his marriage resided in the pent roof house for several years. Archibald T. Dick having died in the meantime, his estate was sold by Samuel Hibberd, Sheriff, in proceeding in partition, May 27, 1844, to Edward Darlington, trustee of Sarah B., wife of Major Price. After the latter acquired title, Rev. Anson B. Hard, while associate rector of St. Paul's, lived there and was succeeded in time by Major Price himself. The property is still owned by the heirs of Samuel A., and Sarah B. Price, but the old house has drifted downward until, as with a goodly number of the historic buildings of Chester, it only awaits



the advancing march of trade to be removed to make room for manufacturing and business establishments. And the time is almost at hand when that decree will become imperative.

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### *The Caldwell Mansion.*

The handsome dwelling on the west side of Edgmont avenue, north of Twelfth street, since it was modernized by Col. Samuel A. Dyer, during his ownership of the property, is, nevertheless, an ancient building. The ground upon which it stands is part of a tract of one hundred and twenty acres which was patented April 2, 1688, to Eusta Anderson. June 21, of the same year, Anderson conveyed it to Charles Pickering, who, it is said, came over with William Penn, and had, in his wandering in search of precious metal discovered silver ore near Pickering creek, a tributary of the Schuylkill. Col. Pickering, for such was the title he was known by, received a patent to the lands in Chester county bordering on that stream. In 1683, he was tried for privately coining "Spanish bits and Boston money," and was sentenced to a fine of forty pounds "toward building a court house," and to redeem all the currency he had issued. He appeared in a criminal case in Chester in 1686, as attorney for the King, the first appearance of an attorney in behalf of the government in the Commonwealth. He was drowned while on a voyage to Europe, subsequent to 1688, and by will he devised his real estate in Chester county, which was large, to sixteen of his friends. He had, however, October 13, of the year last mentioned, conveyed the property purchased from Anderson to David Lloyd, and he in turn sold twenty acres of it, subject to a yearly rent of one silver shilling, to John Hoskins, the elder, who dying seized of the estate, it passed by descent to his son, John Hoskins, the younger. The latter dying intestate, his widow, Ruth, and his son Stephen Hoskins, and his daughter Mary Hos-





kins, and her husband, John Mather, in 1733, released their interest in the premises to Joseph Hoskins, another son of John Hoskins, the younger, and he in turn, April 9, 1741, conveyed the land to Stephen Cole. This Stephen Cole, at the time mentioned, was a resident of Chester. His house then stood about opposite H. B. Taylor's present store. Cole died in 1744, and by his will, December 26, of the same year, he appointed his wife Martha, and his friends, Thomas Cummings and Rev. Richard Backhouse, executors, with full powers of sale, and in exercise thereof the latter, April 17-18, 1746, conveyed the premises to John Caldwell, who shortly after he acquired possession of the estate built the mansion house, still standing. He was a native of Dublin, and is said to have been the son of an Irish nobleman. He came to this country early in the last century and seems to have acquired considerable property. He died subsequent to June 5, 1772, and in his will which bears that date, he devised his real estate to his two sons, two shares to the eldest, and the other share to the youngest. After the death of their father, John purchased the one-third interest of his brother George in the homestead. John, known to the last generation as 'Squire Caldwell, was a carpenter and builder by trade, and was born and died in the old dwelling. He is said to have been a private in the Continental army during the Revolutionary war, and the musket he carried—one captured from the Hessians, at Trenton—is now owned by James Black. He is also said to have been a Lieutenant in the American service and fought against the Indians on the frontier who were waging war on the colonists in the interest of the crown. When the Royal forces were in possession of Philadelphia, and the English squadron lay off Chester, the 'Squire was much troubled with foraging parties from the fleet. John Caldwell stood it for a time, but every fresh visit from the enemy aroused his indignation until he could remain quiet no longer, and in a small boat he rowed out to the flag-ship, demanding an interview with the Admiral, Earl Richard Howe. He was kindly received, and in the conference he informed the English commander that his men had taken from him all his pork, provisions, milk and butter, until his family had been left in want of the necessaries of life. The Admiral listened attentively, said that he would prevent any more depredations on the 'Squire's property,



and asked the latter to make out a bill for articles already taken, which was done, and the paymaster was ordered to discharge his claim immediately. John Caldwell returned to his home, the unaccustomed clinking of broad gold pieces in his pocket making his heart lighter and mitigating his angry feelings until he almost wished the foraging parties would visit his farm once more, that a like cure for his injuries could be again prescribed by the British officer.

Squire Caldwell acquired considerable estate. He purchased and added to the homestead plot the triangular lot at the intersection of Edgmont and Providence avenues, which was known in early times as "Hangman's Lot," because public executions had there formerly taken place. Fitzpatrick and Elizabeth Wilson were there hanged. The culprits were suspended from a wild cherry tree, on one of the lower branches which extended some distance almost at right angles to the trunk, and it is traditionally related in the Caldwell family, that on one occasion from the windows of the mansion across the street the inmates of the old dwelling saw pendant from that fatal branch a man who was executed for stealing a lady's workbox, which stood temporarily on the sill of an open window, so that he could filch it without difficulty. John Caldwell died November 24, 1834, intestate, and on February 23, 1835, Thomas Caldwell, his eldest son, elected to take the homestead at the valuation placed on it in proceedings in partition. The latter was owner of the old house only for a brief season, for he died August 20, 1835, and the estate was held in common by his heirs, during which time it was occupied as tenants by Dr. Porter, Rev. Anson Hard, John Burrows McKeever, and finally by John A. Caldwell, who lived there until the property was sold by Abraham Vanzant, Sheriff, May 22, 1864, to Henry B. Edwards, to settle the estate. Mr. Edwards for a short time resided in the old mansion, when he rented it to Capt. John Morris, who was succeeded by Robert E. Hannum, Jr., then by Henrietta G. Ashmead, widow of John W. Ashmead, and in the spring of 1870 Samuel A. Dyer purchased the premises. He altered and modernized the ancient dwelling so that it became one of the most attractive residences at that time in the city. November 21, 1872, Col. Dyer conveyed the premises to A. L. Bonnaffon. During the latter's



ownership the house was occupied by James Stotesbury, and subsequently by the Rev. Thomas McCauley, who still resides there. The property was subsequently purchased by Anthony A. Hurst, and is now owned by Godfrey Keebler, of Philadelphia.

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### *The Cobourn (Flickwir) House.*

The ancient brick structure on the south side of Third street, adjoining the banking house of Samuel A. Dyer, was built by Robert Cobourn before the middle of the last century. He was a hatter, and the store room to the west of the main building, now occupied by Col. W. C. Gray as an office, was erected by him as a hatter's shop. The second story, and attic rooms, however, over the store, were added many years subsequent to the building of the dwelling proper. Robert Cobourn, by his will, January 1, 1778, devised the estate to his wife for life with remainder to his seven children equally as tenants in common. He died before 1789, as did his widow, Elizabeth, previous to April 15, 1796, for in a deed of that date, whereby Robert, Israel and Mary Cobourn, children of Robert Cobourn, convey the premises to their elder brother, Aaron, the death of Elizabeth is mentioned, as also that of two of the other children, in their minority. Robert Fairlamb, Sheriff, seized the premises as Aaron Cobourn in foreclosure of a mortgage, and sold them April 17, 1818, to William Eyre. The latter did not immediately occupy the house, but leased it to Butler & Worthington, who in the fall of the year 1819, issued the first newspaper ever printed in Delaware county—*The Post Boy*—and continued its publication until April 20, 1824, when Butler retired and Eliphalet B. Worthington issued the paper until he sold the establishment to Joseph M. G. Lescure. William Eyre, however, subsequently resided in the house until he retired from business, and then rented it to Breese Lyons, who carried on the tailoring business therein.



Martha Cowgill afterwards occupied the premises for some time, and was succeeded by Lydia E. Finch, who purchased the dwelling August 30, 1843. Miss Finch came to reside in Chester in 1822, as governess of the children of Israel Haycock, who then resided at Lamokin Hall. In 1823, she established a school in the old Logan House, but several years afterwards abandoning that occupation she opened a dry goods and trimming store at the same place, and as a sign used a band-box suspended on a pole, which gave to the store the name of the "band-box." Her taste in selecting goods was so noticeable that she soon acquired a large trade, and, as stated, purchased the Cobourn House in 1843. It is related that Miss Finch was exceedingly fearful of thunder-storms. On one occasion Dr. Porter called to see her professionally, and just as he was about going, a clap of thunder rattled overhead. Miss Finch, clinging to the doctor, said: "You can't go now, doctor; you mustn't go." The physician knowing her peculiarity, replied: "Good Heavens! madam, I'm a doctor; not a lightning rod." She carried on business in the house until she sold the premises to Jeremiah W. Flickwir. After Miss Finch retired, she purchased a dwelling on Fifth street, near Madison, where she resided until October 9, 1871, when she sold that property to Simon Brandeis, who still owns it. Miss Finch, after boarding for a time in Chester, with a life long friend, removed to the house of Mrs. Taws, in Germantown, where she died October 24, 1881. She was peculiarly reticent respecting her age, and previous to her death she destroyed all papers which in anywise touched thereon. She was, however, known to have been an octogenarian.

Jeremiah W. Flickwir purchased the premises March 13, 1866. He married Jemima E., daughter of Richard Flower, of Lamokin Hall. Mr. Flickwir was a druggist, and carried on that business in Philadelphia for many years. In 1839, he purchased "Fairview Farm," just beyond the western line of the old Borough of Chester, where he resided during the summer time, and for several years made farming his exclusive occupation, until 1861, when he sold the estate to James Garland, removed to Chester, where he opened a drug store, and became Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, and was elected Alderman of the Middle Ward. He died October 27, 1866, and by will, May 3, 1854, he devised his estate to his wife





absolutely. His widow resided in the old dwelling until 1877, when she rented it to John Rumford. The building is now used as offices. John B. Hinkson, Esq., now occupies the lower floor of the original dwelling, and Col. W. C. Gray that which was formerly the store room.

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### *The Parker House.*

The building to the north and immediately adjoining the present residence of Jonathan Pennell, on the west side of Edgmont avenue, I presume, was the early residence of Joseph Parker, previous to his purchase of the Logan House; at all events it was owned by him and descended to his daughter, Mary (Parker) Norris, who sold it April 10, 1773, to Henry Hale Graham. The latter died seized of the property, and his only son, William Graham, who acquired the real estate belonging to his father, conveyed it, May 20, 1800, to William Anderson, and the latter in turn sold it, March 26, 1801, to James Barnard, who had been Sheriff of Delaware county from 1792-'95, and a vestryman of St. Paul's Church in 1801-2-3. The latter is said to have occupied the house as a tenant long previous to his purchase of the property. In this dwelling Isaac D. Barnard, the fourth generation in descent from Richard Barnard, the first settler of that name, was born in 1791. His father, James Barnard, died previous to November 19, 1807, for on that date letters of administration were granted to his widow, Susanna, the executors named in his will failing to act. In his testament, James Barnard devised his estate to his wife for life, and the remainder to his children in unequal share, coupled with the condition that if Isaac D. Barnard did not assign to his brother and sister certain portions of the estate devised to him (Isaac) by his brother James D. Barnard, that in that event he should be debarred from receiving anything under his (the father's) will. Isaac D. Barnard entered the law office of William Graham, and was admitted to the



bar of Chester county in 1816. During the second war with England he was commissioned Captain of the Fourteenth United States Infantry, and took part in the battle at Fort George, where his signal bravery and ability earned for him promotion to the rank of Major. He served faithfully in the campaign of the Northeastern border, and at the battle of Plattsburg, owing to the death and disability of his superior officers, the command of the corps devolved on him. He also so distinguished himself at the battle of Lyon's creek, that he was honorably mentioned in the official reports of the Major and Brigadier Generals commanding. So gallant was his charge on that occasion that when the Marquis of Tweedsdale, who commanded the One Hundredth British Regiment in that battle, after peace was proclaimed came to Philadelphia, and during that visit, we are told by Gilbert Cope—to whom I am indebted for much of the information respecting Barnard—the Marquis remarked to several persons: "I would be glad to make the acquaintance of the young gentleman, Barnard, who so gallantly drove me from my position at Lyon's creek."

At the close of the war the Government desired Barnard to remain in the army permanently, but he declined, and locating in West Chester he began the duties of his profession, where he soon attained a large practice, and within a year after his admission was appointed Deputy Attorney General for Chester county. In 1820, he was elected from the district comprising Chester and Delaware counties, State Senator, and in 1824, he was tendered the President Judgeship of Lancaster and Dauphin counties, which he declined. In 1826, he was appointed by Governor Shulze, Secretary of the Commonwealth, and the same year was elected by the Legislature, Senator of the United States, a position he acceptably filled until 1831. He died February 18, 1834, and his will was probated the 24th of the same month. In it he gave David Townsend, his executor, power to sell, but the latter failed to carry out the instructions of the testator, and February 3, 1881, Joseph W. Barnard, who had been appointed administrator, sold the estate to William J. Doffin, of Philadelphia. The latter had married Lucy Barnard, one of the heirs, and the same day the heirs and legatees of Isaac D. Barnard made a deed of confirmation to Doffin. He and Sidney P., his wife, April 8, 1881, conveyed the premises to Jonathan



Pennell. During the ownership of the old house by the Barnard family it was tenanted by Breese Lyons, and subsequently by Joseph Taylor, the Prothonotary and Clerk of the Courts of Delaware county, and later Surveyor of Chester, who, almost an octogenarian, is still a resident of our city. After Taylor vacated the premises they were occupied by Dr Joshua Owens, although during all this time Thomas, a brother of Isaac D. Barnard, lived in part of the house, as did more recently Mary D. Barnard.

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### *The Anderson (Potter) House.*

The title to this old dwelling is the same as that set forth in the account of the Porter (Lloyd) House, until the property passed into the ownership of Major William Anderson, May 21, 1808. The dwelling, I. Engle Cochran, Sr., states, was erected by the Major between the date of his purchase and the sale of the estate, May 26, 1823, to John Cochran. The latter was the son of Alexander Cochran, who came to this county early in the present century and settled in Nether Providence, near the residence of his kinspeople, the Leiper family. John Cochran, the elder, was a farmer and drover, accumulating considerable means in his business and acquiring a large farm, part of which was the tract where this house was built. He died October 31, 1843, intestate, and in proceedings in partition, Isaac E. Cochran, and John Cochran, the younger, acquired title to the homestead tract comprising over one hundred and thirteen acres. John Cochran, January 30, 1849, conveyed his interest in seventy acres of ground, including the mansion house, to his brother, Isaac Engle Cochran. The latter, after residing in the dwelling for several years, March 27, 1852, conveyed the premises to Frederick Wiggin and Augustus Wiggin, the price paid being \$15,000, and the latter, in April of the same year, sold the mansion house and ten acres of ground to Right Rev. Alonzo Pot-



ter, and Sarah B., his wife. Alonzo Potter was born in Dutchess county, New York, in 1800, and after graduating at Union College came to Philadelphia, where he devoted himself to theological studies, until he was called in 1821 to the Professorship of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy at Union College. This position he relinquished when at the age of twenty-five, he accepted the rectorship of St. Paul's Church, Boston. In 1835 he was again called to Union College to fill the professorship of Ecclesiastical History. In 1845 he was elected Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, the third person holding that office from the formation of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, after the determination of the War of Independence. Bishop Potter died July 4, 1865. A year previous to his death, February 6, 1864, Alonzo Potter and his three sons—his wife Sarah (Benedict) being dead—joined in a deed of the estate to Abram Blakeley, the present owner.

Abram Blakeley was born in Dewsbury, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England, in 1806. He attended at an early age the Free Episcopal School there until his fourteenth year, at which time he began weaving cotton sheeting in his father's house and was so employed for two years, when he went to Staleybridge, where he first learned to weave on a power loom. He continued there for several years, and when twenty-two came to the United States. He obtained employment at Bullock & Bancroft's factory, and in 1830 went to Pottsville, where he labored in the mines as a bunksman—one who keeps account of the coal as it comes from the mines. In 1841 he moved to Rockdale, in this county, where he worked as a beamer in the mill of James Houghton, but in the fall of that year returned to the coal regions and resumed the duties of bunksman, and at the same time became "a hunter for black dirt," that is, one who examines land to ascertain if it exhibits any indications of coal deposits. In 1833, he obtained employment with John P. Crozer, at West Branch, as a cloth taker, or inspector of cloth as it comes from the looms, and remained there for thirteen years, until in 1846, he, with Phineas Lownes, began manufacturing at Knowlton, the firm being Lownes & Blakeley. After struggling for seven years, they sold their business to Mr. Lewis, and in the spring of 1854, Mr. Blakeley, in connection with Dr. Bonsall, as special partner, purchased the Arasapha Mill, erected by John





Larkin, Jr., and began manufacturing in Chester, the firm continuing in business until the death of Dr. Bonsall dissolved it. In 1866, Mr. Blakeley took his son, Benjamin W., into partnership, and since that time William S. Blakeley, another of his sons, has been admitted into the firm.

I mention the facts in Mr. Blakeley's life to show the opportunities which thirty years ago presented themselves to the industrious and energetic young man without means to push himself forward in his avocation, and because I believe that such success hereafter will be exceptional in this country, in the Eastern Atlantic States at least, as it has been in old England for nearly a century.

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### *The Morgan (Terrill) House.*

The old building standing on the east side of Market street, the second structure south of Fourth street, now occupied by Maurice Beaver as a stove and tin store, was, I presume, built by Evan Morgan. The land was part of the twenty acres patented May 31, 1686, to James Sandelands, the elder, and was conveyed by John Crosby and wife, January 20, 1723, to Thomas Griffing, subject to a yearly quit rent of one shilling. This John Crosby was a son of Richard, the first of that name who came to Pennsylvania after Penn acquired title to the Province. The former is stated by Martin to have first settled in Philadelphia, and was one of the original purchasers of town lots there, but that he shortly afterwards removed to Chester, for in 1684 he was appointed a collector with two others, "to gather the assessments," made by the authorities to build the Court House and Prison. His son, John, to whom Sandelands conveyed the ground on Market street, married in 1719, and seems to have disregarded the observances of Friends on such occasions, for in that year he made his acknowledgment to Chester Meeting, stating that he is "hearty sorry and desire the forgive-



ness of God and of my Brethern." He was a Justice of the Peace, and in 1723-4, represented the county in the Provincial Assembly. He died in the fall of the year 1750. John Crosby sold the lot to Thomas Griffing at the time already mentioned, and the latter, March 24-25, 1725, conveyed the property to Evan Morgan, who built the dwelling house. Evan Morgan died seized of the premises and they descended to his son, John Morgan, who in the deed, February 12, 1783, conveying the estate to Jemima (Linard) Dasey and her sister, Mary Linard, is designated as of Philadelphia. I am told by an aged resident that, he thinks, subsequent to his failure, Francis Richardson resided in the house. After it was purchased by Jemima Dasey and her maiden sister, they kept a dry goods and trimming store there and continued in the business while they remained the owners of the property. Several of the older people hereabout can recall Mary Linard, an elderly woman, lame, and hobbling along leaning on a cane. October 11, 1809, Dr. Job H. Terrill purchased the house and resided therein until his death, January 20, 1844. The doctor was a man of fine conversational powers, possessing a ready vocabulary and was rapid in his utterances. He was a noted lover of horses, and always kept one of the best, if not the best in Chester. He would have his negro man, Ike, train his horses on Welsh street, and would stand and watch them speeding along from Edgmont road to the Porter House and back. He always rode in a sulkey, and in getting in one day his horse started, threw him against the vehicle and injured his thigh so severely that it brought on a disease which ultimately proved fatal. His premises were noticeable for the attractive ground to the north of the dwelling, where D. P. Paiste's store is now located. In the centre of the garden was an enormous box bush, and white violets grew thickly, mottling the grass plot, while fruit trees, well trimmed and cared for, were scattered here and there. In front of the house, on the sidewalk, was an old well and pump, which stood there until within a quarter of a century. Dr. Terrill's daughter, Anna Louisa, became the first wife of William Eyre, Jr., and the mother of the present Joshua P. Eyre, while Emeline, to whom the old homestead descended, married John Odenheimer Deshong. The latter was the son of Peter and Mary (Odenheimer) Deshong, and for many years carried on general merchandising in a building



which formerly occupied the site of Mortimer H. Bickley's drug store, and subsequently a lumber yard on the north side of Fifth street, above Welsh. He was an enterprising business man and acquired a large estate the largest ever accumulated by any resident of Chester. He was quick in his decision and prompt in action, two characteristics to which he was greatly indebted for his success. He never sought political preferment, although solicited to permit his name to be used in connection with various offices, but steadfastly refused all positions other than that of Director of The Delaware County National Bank, the duties of which he discharged for many years previous to his death, which took place May 28, 1881. Mrs. Emeline Deshong now owns the old homestead.

After the death of Dr. Terrill, the late Hon. Y. S. Walter, a sketch of whom appears in "Notes Respecting Newspapers of Chester," in this volume, occupied the house until the spring of 1845, when Dr. J. M. Allen leased it and altered the front part of the building into a drug store, where he soon secured a large and profitable business. During the cholera season of 1845, the public were so alarmed that frequently he and his assistants could with difficulty wait on the persons who came to purchase Burgundy pitch plasters, which, when worn on the stomach, was believed to be an absolute protection from the disease. In 1851, Dr. Allen purchased the property where Bickley's large building now stands, and continued there until the breaking out of the war in 1861, when he was appointed Surgeon of the 54th Pennsylvania Volunteers, and subsequently was Medical Director of the Department of Western Virginia, and Surgeon-in-Chief of staff; in which he served until late in the year 1864, when his health broke down, and he was honorably discharged from the service, after having been in the hospital several months. He is now Alderman of the Middle Ward, an office he fills most creditably. Dr. Allen was followed by Thomas Broughton, who kept in the old Terrill House a confectionery store until 1852, when he sold the business to Denis Clark, who vacated the premises and was followed by Flood & Pullen, as a cigar store. The house is occupied at the present time by Maurice Beaver, as before stated.



*The Morris House.*

On the south side of Fifth street, the second house from the corner, is the dwelling, now owned and occupied by Mrs. Josephine Lyons Garrett, which building was erected by her maternal grandfather, Jonathan Morris. The land was part of the twenty acres patented to James Sandelands, May 31, 1686, and was subsequently the property of Rev. Richard Backhouse, rector of St. Paul's Church, from 1726 to 1749, and afterwards that of Adam Grubb, who, dying seized of the estate, his executors, John and Isaac Grubb, May 7, 1791, conveyed the premises to Elisha Price. The latter dying in 1798, of yellow fever, the lots vested in proceeding in partition of his estate in his daughter, Abigail, who had intermarried with Aaron Musgrave, a Conveyancer, in Philadelphia, and they, by deed, June 24, 1799, conveyed the property to Jonathan Morris. The latter, who was a blacksmith, built the present house in 1800, and erected on the south-west corner of Welsh and Fifth streets a forge, which stood there for many years. He died previous to February 14, 1814, for his will, dated January 17, of that year, was admitted to probate at the time first mentioned. By it he devised his house and lands to his six children, Hannah, Mary, Anna, Margaret, Samuel P., and Cadwallader, with a life estate to his wife, Rebecca, in one-third of the estate. All the children excepting Samuel P. Morris, Anna, who married James Burns, and Margaret, who married Crossman Lyons, died young and without children. The survivors, May 24, 1825, released their interest in the estate to their mother and sister Margaret Morris.

The latter married Crossman Lyons, as before stated. He was the son of Jedediah and Mary Gorman Lyons. The former was a native of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, and a soldier in the Revolution; one of the men who marched with Washington in his retreat through that Colony, shared his triumph at Trenton, and whose feet were frozen during the dreary winter's cantonment at Valley Forge. He used to relate that the sweetest morsel he ever tasted was a piece of beef roasted on the end of his ramrod by the camp fire, which he had cut from a steer captured and slaughtered by a





foraging party of American troops who had had nothing to eat for more than twenty-four hours. His wife it was who dressed the wound of General Lafayette, as heretofore stated. Crossman Lyons, his son, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his daughter, Mrs. Garrett, now owns a silver medal having on one side the head of Lafayette, and on the other that of Washington, which he won at a shooting match of militia in the second decade of this century. Lyons had broken his right arm, and it was at that time in a sling; some person present asked him laughingly if he was not going to shoot at the target. "Certainly I will," he replied, "if any one will load a musket for me." That being done he fired, using his left shoulder in place of his right, and fortunately the bullet from his gun struck the bull's eye directly in the centre, the best shot that day.

The old homestead has been occupied as tenants, by Dr. William Gerhart, George Baker, when first married, Mrs. Keziah West, mother of the late John G. Dyer, by her first marriage, and Thomas Clyde. He was followed by Mrs. Hawes, who had married first Captain Isaac Engle and afterwards Charles Hawes, and, as the latter's widow, occupied the house. John Green and Col. Alexander Worrall lived in the dwelling, to be superseded by Mrs. Josephine Lyons Garrett, to whom the property descended from her parents.

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### *The Thomas Morgan House.*

Midway of the block on the east side of Market street, between Third and Fourth streets, is the Thomas Morgan House, the front having been modernized as a store by John Brooks, the present occupant and owner. The title to the land, as with all other lots in that neighborhood, begins of record with the patent, May 31, 1686, to James Sandelands, the elder. The heirs of the latter conveyed the premises to Thomas Morgan, who built the house and



died, In settling his estate the property was sold, August 18, 1756, by Jonathan Fairlamb, Sheriff, to William Eyre, of Bethel township, son of Robert Eyre, the first settler of that name in the Province. I have not learned who it was resided in the old house during the ownership of William Eyre, but he died seized of the premises, and by his will, August 7, 1763, he devised the property to his son, John Eyre, and the latter conveyed it, May 1, 1779, to Isaac Eyre, who in turn, June 7, 1784, transferred it to Davis Bevan, who kept a general store therein. The latter was a positive man, but a worthy citizen and ardent patriot. The brilliant illumination of his window—a tree of victory planted therein, glittering with spangles and shining with lighted candles—in honor of the signal defeat of the British at New Orleans, is still recalled to memory by our older residents. Davis Bevan, by his will, August 30, 1814, devised the estate to his daughter Isabella, for life, with remainder to Matthew L. Bevan. Isabella Bevan continued the business after her father's death, but previous to the sale of the premises, March 15, 1833, by Matthew L. Bevan, to Henry L. Powell, the house was occupied by Samuel Lamplugh, and afterwards by Major Samuel A. Price, who had his hat factory in the building. When Henry L. Powell acquired possession he kept a boot and shoe store there, as did also John Lloyd, to whom he sold the property, April 3, 1844. Two years subsequently, March 31, 1846, Lloyd re-conveyed the premises to Henry L. Powell, who, on November 18, of the following year, transferred it to Joseph Entwisle, who carried on a bakery there until November 4, 1851, when he sold the property to John Brooks, and built a bleaching mill in the South Ward. John Brooks is now the leading business man who has continued in one occupation and in one locality for a greater number of years than any person at present in Chester, and has gathered during that period a large business and a competency.



*The Birchall House.*

The stone building at the north-west corner of Concord avenue and Third street is an ancient dwelling, the date of its erection, however, I am unable to give. Many of our old residents can recall it standing on an eminence surrounded with many large fruit trees. The side door, on Concord avenue, was divided so that the upper half could be opened while the lower part was closed, and the old roof was in many places covered with moss, which gave to it an exceedingly picturesque appearance. The land on which it was located was part of the tract of ground conveyed to Robert Wade by Armgard Pappogoya, and by his heirs conveyed to John Wale, but to whom it belonged immediately previous to 1767 I have failed to learn, since the records at West Chester, about that date, so far as the Sheriff's deed book is concerned, have been mislaid or lost. From the recital in a latter deed we know that John Morton, Sheriff, August 21, 1767, sold the premises to William Henderson, who, in turn, conveyed it, March 24, 1770, to Thomas Pedrick, a descendant of Rodger Pedrick, the settler of that name, whose daughter, Rebecca, born at Marcus Hook, September 14, 1678, according to Dr. Smith, was the first child born to English parents in the Province of Pennsylvania. The latter was seized of the estate at the time of his death, and under the power given in his will, his executors, James Shaw and William Graham, June 19, 1799, conveyed the property to John Birchall, who owned it at the time of his death, and his daughter, Elizabeth Birchall, September 29, 1820, sold her interest therein to her brother, James Birchall. The latter was a tailor by occupation, and during his latter days, retired from business. He resided in the old building until his death, and by will, November 11, 1829, devised the residue of his estate to his sister-in-law, Sarah Birchall, widow of Caleb Birchall, in consideration of the latter's attention and kindness to him. He also instructed his executors to sell the premises for the payment of his debts, but that seems to have been unnecessary, and the dwelling house and garden passed to the devisee under the will. Sarah Birchall died seized of the premises, and in proceeding in partition of her estate, Samuel Hibberd, Trustee, appointed by the



Court to sell the property, conveyed it, September 11, 1845, to Frederick J. Hinkson, Sr., and several years subsequently Judge Hinkson conveyed it to Ann J. Dutton, wife of Aaron Larkin Dutton. The latter, now deceased, will be remembered for his activity in the Society of Friends, of whose property in this city, to the time of his death, he had entire care. January 25, 1865, Aaron L. Dutton and Ann J., his wife, sold the premises to Dr. F. Ridgley Graham, who still owns it.

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### *The Francis Richardson House.*

The ground on which the dwelling on the east side of Edgmont avenue, the third house from the south-east corner of Second street and Edgmont avenue, is located, was part of the tract acquired by David Lloyd, from the Church Warden of the Swedish congregation at Wicaco, and by his will was devised to his wife, Grace. She in turn devised it to her nephew, Francis Richardson, hence the house cannot antedate 1760, the period of her death. Richardson, as stated elsewhere, was ruined by his business speculations, and the premises were taken in execution and sold by Ezekiel Leonard, Sheriff, July 2, 1787, to William O'Neal, and he, November 4, 1797, conveyed the property to Ephraim Pearson, who married Jane, a daughter of Samuel and Hannah Shaw. He it was who by indenture, May 6, 1816, in carrying out the Act of Assembly "making an appropriation for the erection of piers in the Delaware in the Borough of Chester," gave and ceded to the Commonwealth "all that piece of ground known by the name of 'Richardson's Lower Wharf,' lying on the river Delaware, between the mouth of Chester creek and Front street, continued and extending from high water mark to low water mark, \* \* \* for the purpose of erecting and constructing wharves and piers, and for no other purpose." The State of Pennsylvania subsequently trans-





ferred the piers, thus ceded to it by Ephraim Pearson, known as the lower pier, and that ceded to it by Davis Bevan, June 20, 1816, known as the upper pier, to the Government of the United States, who still own and keep them in repair. 'Squire Pearson had a family of eight sons, all of whom left Chester and settled in distant cities, while his wife, who survived him many years, removed to Philadelphia, where she died in 1862, in her eighty-eighth year, having outlived all her children. John E. Shaw, who administered to the estate of Ephraim Pearson, November 23, 1863, sold the premises to Jonathan Pennell, who repaired and renovated the ancient dwelling after it passed into his ownership.

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### *The Goeltz House.*

The frame structure on the east side of Edgmont avenue, south of Fourth street, is not an ancient building. In all probability it was built about seventy years ago. It was formerly a stable, attached to the house which was subsequently erected on the lands donated previous to 1704, by Thomas Powell to the Parish of St. Paul, for the gift is mentioned in Rev. Mr. Nichol's letter to the London Society "For the Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts," and in 1718, Rev. John Humphreys, under date, October 24, alludes to it as containing the foundation of a parsonage (the front on Third street) which the congregation started to build, "but were not able to accomplish in & it remains as it has been these 3 years, just about 4 feet above the ground as a reproach to them and an infamous mark of their Poverty." The parish did erect a building on the premises many years afterwards, certainly subsequently to 1762, which they leased previous to 1830, to William Kelley, as well as the stable on Edgmont avenue, which latter property I am now considering. Kelley resided in the house on Third street, wherein he kept a restaurant, and in the stable he had a



bottling establishment, the first business of that kind ever in Chester. The church wardens, however, were instructed to sell the premises on ground rent, and in compliance with that order George B. Lownes and Pierce Crosby, May 5, 1831, conveyed the premises to William McCafferty, subject to a ground rent of \$97 yearly. The latter, March 25, 1839, sold the lot on Edgmont avenue, on which was the stable, to Ehrenreich Goeltz, subject to an annual rent of \$19, payable to the wardens of St. Paul's Church. Goeltz changed the stable into a house, and on the rear of the lot erected a soap and chandlery factory, which business he carried on until his death. His widow married Henry Ott, and the latter, January 8, 1851, purchased from the wardens of St. Paul's, the church's interest in the ground rent of \$19 reserved in the deed to Ehrenreich Goeltz. In the distribution of the latter's estate, the house and factory became the property of his son, George Goeltz, the present owner, who, February 3, 1863, purchased from Henry Ott and extinguished the ground rent.

A peculiar circumstance connected with this building is, that several years ago when alterations were being made in the cellar, in excavating, at the depth of three feet below the then bottom, a perfect rubal pavement, similar to those in the roadway of many of our streets, was found, respecting which no person had the slightest information as to the reason why it was there, when it was laid, or by whom.





## COUNTY BRIDGES AT CHESTER.

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**T**HE first bridge erected over Chester creek where the King's road—the present Third street—crosses that stream, was a draw-bridge. In 1686, the Court ordered the building of a horse bridge over the creek, near Chester, as the King's road at that time did not pass through the Borough, but to the north of the town. There is no evidence that the order of the Court as respected that bridge, was ever carried into effect; indeed, the contrary seems to be negatively established, for at the December Court, 1699, Ralph Fishbourne presented a petition “for a convenient road from the west side of Chester creek, where the ferry is kept for to lead to the now King's road.” The Court thereupon appointed six viewers to lay out “the said roadway in the most convenient place they can for the convenience of the inhabitants.”

In 1700, the inconvenience arising from the round-about way became such an annoyance to the traveling public and the inhabitants of the Borough of Chester, that a determined and successful effort was made to change the route of the King's highway, so that it should pass through the town and nearer the river. To avoid interrupting the free navigation of the stream, it was determined that the creek be spanned by a draw-bridge. Accordingly, in that year, an Act of the Colonial Assembly was procured, which authorized the erection of a bridge over the creek at Chester, and ordered the Justices of the county Court “to lay out a road from the King's Road that leads to New Castle and Maryland to the intended place for a bridge over Chester creek.” The Act required



that the bridge should have a draw to it: provided for the employment of a man to attend to it, and specified what his duties were—to draw it up when necessary to let sloops and shallops pass to and from the mills situated on the creek, and also designated that a space of twenty feet should be left clear between the timbers or stonework for “the conveniency” of rafts and logs passing to said mills.

There is in our local annals little or no information respecting this bridge beyond that which can be gleaned from legislative enactments. In the preamble to the Act of Assembly, approved August 14, 1725, which was intended to prevent the obstruction of the navigation of Chester creek, it is set forth that the draw-bridge which had been erected “is now gone to decay, and requires it to be rebuilt or repaired,” and the act “direct the County Commissioners to repair the bridge within a period of twelve months.” In the Act of September 3, 1778, it is stated that the draw-bridge which had been built in 1700, and repaired in 1725, “is decayed and ruined, and that public necessity, as well as the convenience of travelers on the highroad, requires that a good, safe bridge over Chester creek should always be maintained and kept in repair; that the *draw* or *engine* to raise and lower the same is of no public utility and is attended with extraordinary expense and inconvenience to the public. In view of these facts the Act declares “that the Commissioners and Assessors, with the concurrence of the magistrates of the county of Chester, shall, as soon as may be, cause a new bridge to be built at the place where the old bridge formerly stood, leaving at least twenty feet clear between the timber or stonework, and not less than eighteen feet in breadth, and eight feet headway at high water, for the easy passage for rafts, floats, shallops and other crafts, and the said bridge be made fast and close continued from one side of the creek to the other, without any draw or opening for a mast.”

The bridge erected in obedience to this Act was a wooden structure, which was supported by heavy wrought iron chains passing over iron columns located on either abutment. Each link of the chain, Martin says, was about two feet in length, and at either side of the bridge was a large plank cut to resemble an arch. Over





each arch was a sign, the body color white, and bearing the following notification in black letters:

“Walk your horses and drive not more than fifteen head of cattle over this bridge, under a penalty of no less than \$30.”

This structure was carried off its abutments by the water during the noted flood of August 5, 1843, and swept by the torrent against Eyre's wharf, where it remained held fast by one of the chains, which did not part on the eastward side of the creek. Isaiah H. Mirkil and Jerry Stevenson, for more than two months ferried horses, cattle, wagons, carriages and pedestrians across the creek in a scow. The County Commissioners raised the old super-structure to its former position in the fall of 1843, at a cost of \$2150. One of the links or staples to which the chain was attached is still to be seen standing in the roadway at the north-east side of the present bridge, in front of the store now occupied by F. C. Torpey, in Ladomus' block.

In 1850, Chester began rapid strides in material improvements, and the old bridge being deemed insufficient to meet the public demand, early in 1853, John Edward Clyde prepared a petition for a new structure, and Isaiah H. Mirkil circulated the paper for signatures. The petition was met with a remonstrance by several citizens of the town, and so energetically was the matter pushed on each side that the good people of Chester were soon divided into new bridge and anti-new bridge advocates. It was a contest which in that day agitated the newly awakened Borough from centre to circumference.

The struggle eventuated in the erection of the present iron structure in 1853. On the south-east end of the bridge, on the main stanchion, cast in the iron, is a shield, which informs the reader that the super-structure was built by F. Quickley, of Wilmington, Delaware, in the year above stated, and that the County Commissioners during whose term in office the work was completed, were A. Newlin, J. Barton and W. H. Grubb. The bridge originally was without sidewalks, which were added in 1868, to accommodate the public who, up to that time, had been compelled to walk in the present roadway of the bridge, in passing from one Ward to another. In 1872, the County Commissioners made some repairs to the bridge—relayed the planking, which was worn and



decayed in many places, but so enormous is the demand now made on this bridge by the public, that no repairs can for any length of time keep it in good condition.

The Seventh street bridge was finished December 27, 1870, and is an iron super-structure. For some reason this bridge is not looked upon favorably by the public who have doubts as to the stable character of the work.

The Ninth street bridge is really due to the exertions of Messrs. William Simpson & Sons, of Eddystone, whose petition for such an improvement was presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions, July 11, 1879, confirmed by the Court February 20, 1880, and June 27, 1881, the bridge was inspected and accepted by the county.

December 14, 1880, a lengthy petition, signed by almost all the manufacturers and owners of industrial works in the South and Middle Wards, was presented to Court asking for the appointment of a Jury of View, for a bridge at Second street, which was done, and, almost a year subsequently to that date, December 12, 1881, the Court of Quarter Sessions confirmed the action of the Jury of View, which previously had been approved of by two Grand Juries. The bridge is now being built in a substantial manner, and when completed will be an important factor in developing the river front of the city. The untiring perseverance of Isaiah H. Mirkil, after many years, finally procured a patient hearing for his scheme of improvement, and culminated in having a bridge located at this point.





## CHURCHES AT CHESTER.

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### FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE.

The first record of a religious meeting of the Society of Friends, in the Province of Pennsylvania, is that held at the house of Robert Wade, in Chester, in 1675, mentioned by William Edmundson, an eminent minister of the Society, who was present on that occasion. Previous to the coming of Penn, at a monthly meeting held 11th of 7th month, (September) 1681, it was agreed "Yt a meeting shall be held for ye service and worship of God every First Day at ye Court House at Upland." In the statement of Richard Townsend (*Proud's History of Pennsylvania*, vol. 1, p. 220) after giving an account of his voyage in the "Welcome," he states: "Our first concern was to keep up and maintain our religious worship, and in order thereunto we had several meetings, at the houses of the inhabitants, and one boarded meeting house was set up, where the city was to be, near Delaware." This "boarded" house in all probability, was located at Chester, inasmuch as Gordon (*History of Pennsylvania*, 59,) states that "the Quakers had three houses for public religious worship—shortly after the arrival of Penn—one at Chester, another at Shackamaxon, or Kensington, and another at the Falls of the Delaware." In this temporary building, for it was hardly more than that, the Friends of that early day held their meetings for several years, until 1693, when their first permanent meeting house was completed, and it may be that the frame structure was located on the ground which Joran Keen sold to the Society, for the latter, the 6th of the first month, 1687, conveyed to John Simcox, Thomas Brasey, John Bristow, Caleb Pusey,



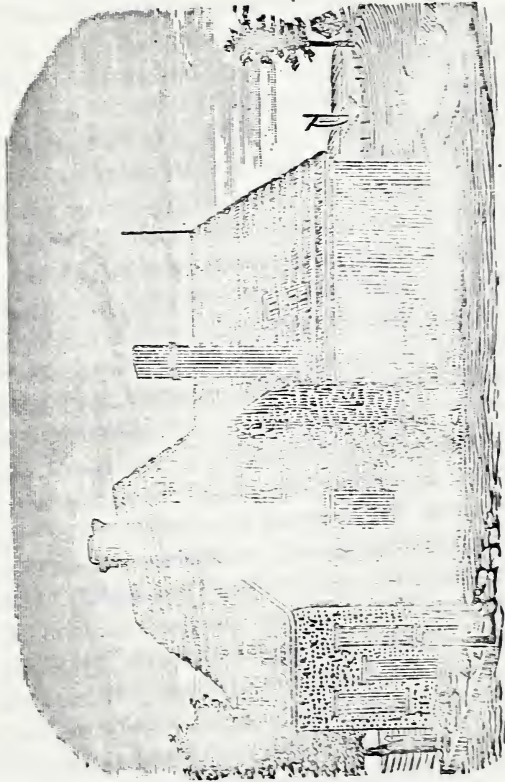
Randal Vernon, Thomas Vernon, Joshua Hastings, Mordecai Maddock, Thomas Martin, Richard Few, Walter Fauset and Edward Carter, in trust, a lot on the west side of Edgmont avenue, south of Third street, sixty feet in front, and continuing that width between parallel lines to the creek, "to the use and behoof of the said Chester—the people of God called Quakers, and their successors forever."

In the same year Chester Monthly Meeting agreed that "Bartholomew Coppock, James Kennedy, Randal Vernon and Caleb Pusey do agree and contract with such workmen or men, as they think fit, to build a meeting house at Chester 24 foot square and 10 foot high in the walls." Nothing seems to have come of this order, and early in the year 1691, the quarterly meeting became earnest in its purpose, and a committee from Providence, Middletown, Springfield and Chester Meetings was appointed to collect the necessary funds, and at a subsequent meeting it was agreed "that John Brinton and Caleb Pusey do forthwith agree with and employ workmen in the building of this meeting house at Chester, on the place that was formerly bought for that purpose; the situation of which, as also the manner of building the same is left to their discretion, and that this meeting do defray the charge of the same, so that it exceed not above one hundred pounds, and there be one convenient chimney, at the least, and that the said John Brinton and Caleb Pusey do give account of what they have done."

This building however, dragged slowly along, for Dr. Smith says the first meeting house at Chester "appears to have been completed in 1693," a statement made from an examination of the official record. The place of worship which for forty-three years was used as such by the Society is incorrectly termed "the old Assembly House," confusing it with the building nearer toward Third street on the same side of Edgmont avenue, in which the Assembly actually did convene. William Penn, however, frequently spoke in the old meeting house, which, it should be remembered, did not include the front part of the house as it can be recalled by many of the present residents of Chester. The part built in 1693 became the back building of the house after it passed into the ownership of Edward Russell, in 1736, who added the two story front addition and changed it into a dwelling house.







FIRST MEETING HOUSE OF FRIENDS, AT CHESTER, BUILT 1683.



In the year last mentioned the Society found it necessary to erect a larger building to accommodate its increasing membership, and April 18, 1736, Caleb Coupland conveyed the southern part of the lot on Market street south of Third street, on which the meeting house now stands, to Jacob Howell, Thomas Cummings, John Owen, Samuel Lightfoot, John Salkeld, Jr., and John Sharpless, and the latter the same day executed a declaration in trust setting forth that they held the land as trustees and for the use of the members of Chester Meeting. The land thus conveyed is certainly included within the patent, 1686, of one and a half acres to Thomas Brasey, yet it must have passed back to the ownership of the Proprietary, for the brief of title shows that William Penn, August 20, 1705, conveyed one acre and ninety-five perches to Caleb Pusey, who, December 20, of the following year, sold the premises to Henry Wounley, and June 24, 1714, the latter re-conveyed the premises to Caleb Pusey, and he, by lease and release, March 25-26, 1723, conveyed the property to John Wright. The latter, who had been educated as a physician in England, settled in Chester in 1714, in 1717 was appointed one of the Justices, and elected a member of the Assembly from Chester county in 1717-'18, 1725-'26, when he removed to the "backwood," as it was then called. When Lancaster county was formed out of Chester county, in May, 1729, he was appointed the President Judge, and discharged the duties of the office without fear or cringing to the executive power when his judicial independence had earned for the Judge the indignation of Governor Thomas. December 19, 1728, John Wright released the fee simple title to Caleb Coupland, he having acquired the leasehold from Caleb Pusey, at a date I have not learned. As the Society waxed stronger they required more land, the meeting house having been located toward the northern line of the lot, hence April 29, 1762, they purchased from Jesse Maris, who had acquired the property by descent from his father, George Maris, who in turn purchased it from Phebe Coppock and Henry Lewis, executors of Thomas Massey, March 25-26, 1739, subject to a yearly rent of £6 to the heirs of James Sandelands. The trustees, John Preston, John Fairlamb, Caleb Hanison and James Barton, to whom it was conveyed by Jesse Maris, May 1, 1762, executed a declaration of trust to Chester Meeting.



The discussion which had prevailed in the Society of Friends during the early part of this century respecting certain doctrinal points, culminated in an open rupture in 1827, when a division took place and those members sustaining Elias Hicks in his views retained their connection with Chester Meeting, while the orthodox branch severed their connection with the Chester body and erected the Sharpless Meeting House at Waterville.

In 1682, the Society of Friends purchased and enclosed a suitable lot, located on the west side of Edgmont avenue, above Sixth street, for a burial place, and on the 5th of the 9th month, 1683, John Hastings and Thomas Vernon were appointed to "fence the burial grounds as soon as may." This ancient God's Acre was, after almost a century had elapsed, walled about as we now see it, and to that end Grace Lloyd, by her will, 6th of 4th month, 1760, directed her executors to "pay £10 toward walling in the front part of the graveyard belonging to the people called Quakers in Chester with brick or stone." Joseph Hoskins, in his will, 31st of 12th month, 1769, bequeathed £10 "for the use of enclosing or fencing the burying ground belonging to the friends of Chester Meeting in such manner as their Preparative Meeting of Chester shall direct and appoint, which said sum of £10 I order to be paid by my executor \* \* \* into the hands of John Eyre for the uses aforesaid," which proves that at the date of Joseph Hoskins' will the burial place had not been enclosed as it is now. Within its walls lie the bodies of most of the noted personages of the ancient Borough. David Lloyd and Grace, his wife, Caleb and David Coupland, Henry Hale Graham, Davis Bevan, John Salkeld, John Mather and almost all the first settlers of the old family names of Chester sleep in that neglected plot, where the remains of hundreds of men who fled hither to escape persecution in Europe lie forgotten, because of the prohibition by the Society of stones to mark the graves of those who slumber within the burial grounds belonging to their meetings.



**ST. PAUL'S CHURCH AND BURIAL GROUND.**

A tract of ground was donated to the Swedish Church by "Arm-gardt Pappogoya" for glebe or church land in Upland, early in the history of the settlement. The plot of land on the south side of Third street, east of Market Square, where the old burial ground now is and where the first St. Paul's Church building was erected, was, previous to that structure being placed there, a burying place for the dead of the Swedish colonists at Upland. This fact is established by the report of Mr. Ross, to the "Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts," in 1714, wherein he distinctly makes this declaration. He also states, they (the Swedes) "had likewise a Church endowed with a valuable Glebe not far from the place of burial, but of this building there remains no sign at this day." John Hill Martin thinks this reference is to the Blockhouse or House of Defence, which was torn down by order of Court in 1703, an opinion which is doubtless correct. Acrelius tells us that the Swedes held religious services usually in the forts and House of Defence. The fact is satisfactorily established that the Swedes were obliged to have sentinels regularly posted during public worship to apprise the congregation within of any attempted attack by the Indians, of which the early settlers seemed to be constantly apprehensive. Every student of our early annals is aware that after the cargo of the "Black Cat," which had been laden with articles of merchandise for the Indians, became exhausted, and the Swedish settlers' capacity for making presents had ceased, the savages seriously considered in Council whether the Europeans should be exterminated or permitted to remain. An old Indian succeeded in preventing a breach between the two races by assuring the young braves that courageous and vigilant men, armed with swords and muskets, would be difficult to subdue. The clergymen were particularly obnoxious to the savages, because the latter believed that during divine services the minister—he alone speaking and all the rest remaining silent—was exhorting the congregation against the Indians. Acrelius also tells us that a blockhouse answered the purpose very well (as a church.) The Indians were not always to be depended upon that they would not make an incursion,





fall upon the Christians, and capture their whole flock. It was, therefore, necessary for them to have the religious houses as a place of defense for the body as well as the soul. The churches were so built that after a suitable elevation, like any other house, a projection was made some courses higher, out of which they could shoot; so that if the heathen fell upon them, which could not be done without their coming up to the house, the Swedes could shoot down upon them continually, and the heathen who used only bows and arrows, could do them little or no injury. That the blockhouse at Wicaco was used as a church we have record, hence, in all probability the like structure at Upland was employed for a similar purpose.

In 1700, Rev. Mr. Evans was sent to Pennsylvania by the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," and located in Philadelphia. He is frequently mentioned in the History of the Society, as going to Chester, Chichester, Concord and Radnor, each about twenty miles distant from Philadelphia, and while constant allusion is made to a church edifice existing in that city, no intimation is given of any such building in either of the other places designated. I am aware that in taking down the old St. Paul's Church building in July, 1850, after it had stood one hundred and forty-eight years, two bricks, burned exceedingly hard and considerably larger in size than those in use at the present day, closely cemented together and with the figures 1642 cut upon them were found. These numerals must have been made upon them many years subsequent to that date, for in 1644 there was not a house standing in the present limits of Chester. Independently of that fact we have documentary record of the exact date of the building, so circumstantially set forth, that there is no room remaining for doubt.

In "An Account of the Building of St. Paul's Church, Chester," furnished to the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," Mr. Ross, the then Missionary of the Society, in his report June 25, 1714, says:

"In the Swedish Dormitory—the old Swedish burial ground—James Sandelands, of Chester, (or as it was first called, Upland,) Merchant, a man of good reputation in the country, was on account of affinity interred to keep up the memory of this founder of a growing family; twas agreed amongst his relations that his grave,



as also that of his kindred and family, who were or might be buried there should be distinguished & set apart from the rest of the burying ground by an enclosure or wall of stone. This design was no sooner formed & noised abroad, but it was happily suggested by a projecting fellow in Town, that, if it seemed good to Mr. Sandelands' relations, the intended stone wall about the place of the interment might be with somewhat more charges carried up and formed into a small chapel or church. This new motion was well liked by ye sd relations and encouraged by everybody in the neighborhood that wished well to the church of England, but they who put life into this proposal & prosperously brought it to pass were Joseph Yeates, merchant in Chester, and James Sandelands, son to the above named Mr. Sandelands, the latter of which two gentlemen, besides other gifts, gave some land to enlarge the church yard, but the former, to wit: Mr. Yeates, a zealous asserter of our constitution in church and State, must be allowed to have been the main promoter of the founding of St. Paul's upon Delaware."

The report further alludes to other persons "Parishers who were chief helpers to carry on the work"—Jeremy Collett, John Hanning, Henry Pierce, Ralph Pile and Thomas Barnsly, but especially does he commend Thomas Powell for the gift of a valuable piece of land, "for a minister's house, garden and other conveniences." He also applauds Hon. Colonel Francis Nicholson, of whom he says: "We may safely say no man parted more freely with his money to promote the interest of the Church, in these parts, nor contributed so universally towards ye erection of Christian synagogues in different and distant plantations in America."

The "small but compact fabric of brick," thus erected and said to be "one of the neatest on this Continent," was forty-nine feet in length by twenty-six feet in breadth, and was well and substantially finished inside. The main entrance which was wide and spacious, closed by double doors, was at the north side of the Church, and the access to the building was from Market street, through the yard.

Queen Anne, whom Horace Walpole dubbed "the wet nurse of the church," presented to the parish a handsome pulpit, a communion table "well rail'd in and set out with a rich cloth, and a neat chalice;" the two former articles were located at the east end of the edifice. This chalice and salver, the Queen's gift, as well as a similar chalice, presented to the congregation by Sir Jeffrey Jeffries, are still in possession of the Church Wardens, and employed



in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to this day, but the pulpit and communion table have long since been removed and their present whereabouts, if in existence, is entirely forgotten. The chalices and their salvers are of hammered and very pure silver, and the one presented by the Queen has engraved upon it the words, "Annæ Reginae."

The inside of the Church was divided into four parts by two aisles, one extending from the double doors and the other from the pulpit to the extreme western part of the Church. The roof was oak, and the rafters white oak, hewed with a broad axe. The chancel was spacious and paved with brick, as were also the aisles. In the west end of the Church and directly opposite the pulpit, built into the wall, was the well-known slab of gray sand stone, six feet in length by three in breadth, now in the Sunday School room of the new Church edifice, erected to the memory of James Sandelands, the elder. Along the borders of the old slab in large capital letters are the words:

HERE LIES INTERRED THE BODIE OF  
JAMES SANDELANDS, MERCHANT  
IN UPLAND, IN PENNSYLVANIA,  
WHO DEPARTED THIS MORTAL LIFE  
APRILE TE 12, 1692, AGED 56 YEARS,  
AND HIS WIFE,  
ANN SANDELANDS.

"Its face is divided into two parts, the upper bearing in cypher the initials J. S. and A. S., the arms of the Sandelands family—Argent, a band Azure, on the border dividing the upper from the lower part are the words, 'Vive Memor Lethi FFugit Hora.' The lower half contains many emblems of mortality, the tolling bell, the passing bell, the skull and cross bones, the empty hour-glass, an upright coffin bearing on its side the words 'Memento Mori,' 'Time Deum,' and in either corner crossed, a scepter and mattock, and a mattock and spade."

The tablet at the present writing is disintegrating, and in a few years more will, in all probability, crumble away.

James Sandelands, the elder, was a Scotchman, and there is some reason to believe that his father was Captain Jacob Everson Sandelyn—the name perhaps incorrectly spelled by the early annalists—who, as master of the ship "Scotch Dutchman," visited the Swed-



ish settlements on the Delaware in the year 1646, and sold to the Governor "duffel cloth and other goods" to the value of 2,500 guilders. His mother we know lived here in February 1683, for she is mentioned in the trial of Margaret Matson, of Ridley, for witchcraft before William Penn and the Provincial Council in that year. The first allusion to James Sandelands, is in the patent of August 6, 1665, "for two lots of land in Upland at Delaware, upon the North side of the creek or kill." On June 13, 1670, patents were granted to him for two other lots similarly situated, adjoining the property of his father-in-law, Joran Keen. Sandelands was a soldier, for in 1669 his name occurs in the List of Discharged Soldiers, now in the office of the Secretary of State, at Albany, New York. In 1675, he was captain of a company of militia, recruited from the territory within the jurisdiction of the Upland Court. While in command of this company he was accused of "being the cause of the death of an Indyan," and pleading not guilty, was "cleared by proclamation." Subsequently he was found guilty of some misdemeanor which Prof. Gregory B. Keen thinks may have been the same charge revived, and "it was ordered that he pay the sum of 300 guilders—the one-halfe to bee towards the building of the new Church at Weckakoe, and the other to the Sheriff" and was "put off from being Captain."

In a deed in 1680, he is designated as "merchant," but there is no evidence to show what particular goods he dealt in, excepting a record that having purchased tobacco in Maryland, which was not delivered according to agreement, "a Certayne great Boate or Siallop," belonging to the delinquent consignor, was attached and "publicly sold." The records of the early Courts show that he frequently appeared as attorney for the suitors before that tribunal. In 1677, he is mentioned as the only person on the Delaware river, from Upland, northwardly, who owned a slave, and is recorded as one of the "responsible housekeepers" at this place. He was appointed by Col. William Markham, one of the Deputy Governor's Council in 1681, and was constituted one of the Justices of the newly organized Upland Court. When William Penn arrived in the "Welcome," he visited Sandelands, as the latter then owned the largest part of the present Middle and North Wards of Chester, and it was "talkt among the people" of that day "that it was with In-





tent to have built a 'City' at Upland, "but that he and Sanderlin could not agree." Hence it is due to his action that the metropolis of Pennsylvania was not located at this point. From 1688 to 1690, he was a member of the General Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania. He would seem to have been of a jovial temperament, which contrasted decidedly with the Quaker stillness and sobriety of his English neighbors. He was presented by the Grand Jury "for keeping an ordinary att Chester without Lysence, as also for keeping disorders in his house upon the 1st day of the week. The Court dispences with his Keeping the ordinary until the Provincial Council shall sit, & remit the other on his promising not to do so any more." However, at a meeting of the Council, "ye 18th of ye 3d mo., 1686, upon ye Petition of James Sanderling, for a Lycence to Keep an Ordinary, it was granted him." The house thus licensed was the Double House, heretofore mentioned. James Sandelands died April 12, 1692, aged fifty-six years. I am thus particular in giving the circumstances of the life of this early colonist, as far as known, because St. Paul's was a memorial church, erected to keep him in the recollection of the inhabitants of Chester, wherein he had passed a busy and enterprising life.

His wife, Ann, after a brief widowhood, married Peter Baynton, who subsequently abandoned her and returned to England, leaving her in such destitute circumstances that the Provincial Council, May 19, 1698, ordered her to appropriate the residue of his property in Chester for her support. He returned subsequently, and apparently was repentant for his misdeeds. Ann died, and October 5, 1704, was buried by the side of her first husband, James Sandelands. As her name appears on the old tablet, in St. Paul's Church, it proves that the stone was not set up by the descendants of Sandelands until after that date.

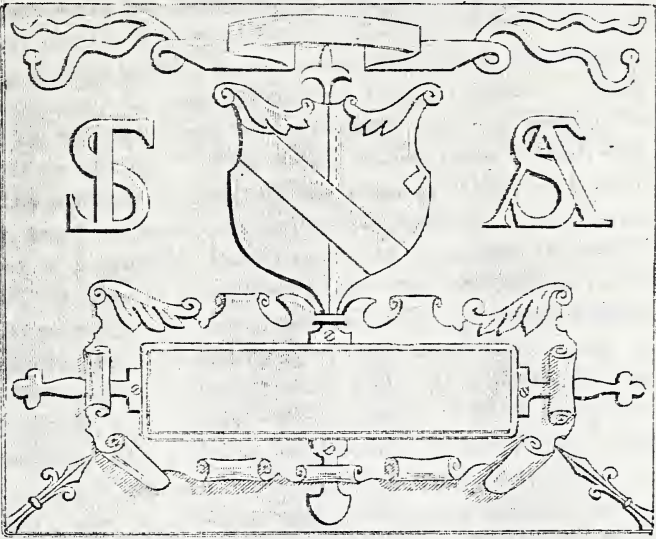
The old church must have had a sun dial, perhaps over its main door, such as is still to be seen at the Court House of Somerset county, Maryland, for in 1704 the wardens claim credit for "cash pd ye ferymen for Bringing Down ye Dyal, 1s. 8d., ac of nayles for setting up ye Dyall, 1s. 2d., money spent and pd ye men for setting It up, 4s." In the early times a bell, to remind the congregation that the time for public worship was at hand, had to be rung, as



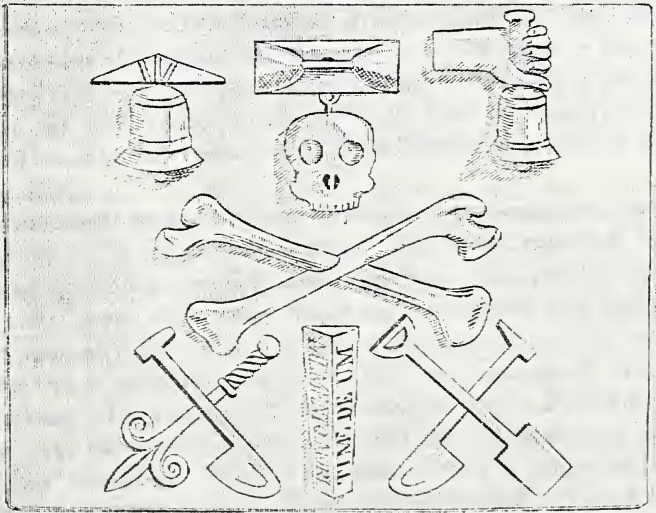
DEPARTED THIS MORTAL LIFE APRIL THE 12 1682 AGED 56 YEARS.

AND HIS WIFE ANN SANDELANDS

HERE LIES INTERRED THE BODY OF JAMES SANDELANDS MERCHANT.



VIVE MEMOR LETHI  
VIFUGIT HORA



IN UPLAND IN PENNSILVANIA, WHO

■ SANDELANDS TABLET IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, CHESTER.



very few persons in the Colony owned watches, and in the houses of the wealthy only the high eight-day clocks, imported from England, ticked the passing hours. Hence we find an entry in the warden's book, under date "25 xber, (Christmas) 1713, as follows: "Cuffy was paid 6s. 6d., and Dick, David Roberts' boy, one shilling for ringing the church bell." This bell, I believe, was a small one, such as the auctioneers now use, the sound of which on a clear, quiet day, could be heard at considerable distance. I am aware that there is a tradition that Queen Anne presented the church with a bell, but there is no evidence to show this, although, as is well known, the sovereign lady made gifts to all the Episcopal churches in the Colonies, and the testimony of the church books tends to disprove the story of the Queen Anne bell. At a meeting of the vestry, March 30, 1741, twenty-three members of the congregation subscribed funds to "& for in consideration of purchasing a bell for said church," and at a meeting of the same body, April 15, 1745, a bell tower, or turret, to hang the bell was ordered "to be built of stone in the foundation from out to out, Twelve by Fourteen foot." The belfry, built according to these directions, was to the west of and entirely detached from the Church. The bell, which was made in England, and had cast on it the words "Roger Rice, Chester, 1743," was paid for in advance in 1742, by a bill of exchange for £30, and, as the sum obtained by subscription amounted to only half that amount, John Mather donated the remaining £15.

The stonework, twenty-five feet in height, was surmounted by a frame structure, in which the bell hung. The tower, including the wooden addition, was over fifty feet. The belfry was entered by a door on the south side. The frame super-structure was square until it reached the plate on which the rafters rested, and the roof faced four ways receding to a point which was ornamented with a weather vane. In each side of the framework was a slatted window, so that the sound of the bell would not be obstructed any more than necessary. Within the interior was a rough ladder, which the sexton had to climb when he tolled the bell, although for church services it was rung by a long rope, which descended to within a few feet of the ground floor.

The foundation of the ancient structure was laid July, 1702, and



on Sunday, January 24, 1703, (new style) St. Paul's day, the edifice was opened to public worship, Rev. John Talbot preaching the first sermon in the church. The general impression is that Rev. George Keith was the first clergyman to hold divine services in St. Paul's, but in that gentleman's "Journal and Travels," published in London, 1706, occurs this passage: "Sunday, January 24, 1702," (1703 N. S.) "I preached at Philadelphia, on Matthew, V., 17, both in the forenoon and afternoon, Mr. Evans, the minister, having that day been at Chester, in Pennsylvania, to accompany Mr. Talbot, who was to preach the first sermon in the church after it was built." Mr. Keith did preach here on February 7, and August 3, of that year, and records: "We were kindly entertained at the house of Jasper Yeats there," and, on "Sunday, April 9, 1704, I preached at Chester, on John iv. 24, being my last sermon there." In 1704, Rev. Henry Nichols was appointed missionary to St. Paul's Parish, by the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel," and reported that the people were well inclined to the Church of England, although they had previous to that time no "fixed minister till now," and that the congregation had made a subscription of £60 a year toward the support of their rector.

In 1718, Rev. John Humphrey, who was in charge of the parish, reported to the Society, that he could not get a house in Chester to live in and therefore had to buy a plantation of a thousand acres, about three miles distant. He was not altogether acceptable to parishioners, and on April 5, 1717, they petitioned the Society to appoint another person, which was done, and Samuel Hesselins was substituted in his stead.

Thirty-four years after Mr. Humphreys had complained of the absence of a parsonage, in 1752, the Rev. Thomas Thompson writes to the Society: "I found no Church wardens or vestry, no house for the minister to live in, nay, not a fit house to hire." Mr. Thompson, it seems, formed no better opinion of the people than the people did of the rector, for in "Rev. Dr. Perry's papers relating to the History of the Church in Pennsylvania, 1680 to 1778," Rev. Thomas Thompson is referred to as a man of bad character.

The congregation, however, failed to provide for the Missionaries, as the rules of the Society required, and in 1762 a notice was given them, that if they did not procure better accommodations for their





clergyman and "maintain a glebe, a dwelling house, and their Church and burying grounds in decent order and repair," the Society would withdraw its mission from them. To accomplish these ends the congregation issued a scheme in January of that year, to raise £562 10s. 0d., by a lottery. The advertisement, after setting forth these facts, states: "They," the congregation, "find themselves under the disagreeable necessity to apply to the publick by way of a Lottery, not doubting that it will meet with all suitable encouragement from the well-disposed of every denomination, as it is intended for the Glory of God and consequently for the good of the Provinca." There were 1,733 prizes and 3,267 blanks, making 5,000 tickets in all. The drawing was to take place either in Chester or Philadelphia, on March 1, 1762, and continue until all the tickets were drawn. The managers add this addenda to their advertisement:

"N. B.—As the above sum will fall vastly short of completing everything as could be wished, it is hoped that if any are scrupulous as to the method of raising money, yet wish well to the Design, and are willing to promote the same, if such Persons will deliver their Liberality into the hands of Mr. Charles Thomson, Merchant, in Philadelphia, or to any of the Managers aforesaid, it will be gratefully acknowledged and carefully applied accordingly."

There is little of interest connected with the Church for more than twenty years following the lottery. The brewing trouble with the Mother Country and the stormy days of the Revolution seem to have so engrossed the attention of the people, that many things which must have occurred during that period and which should have been noted, have been omitted. This statement applies equally to the county records, and the student of our annals will be surprised to find how little can be gathered from an examination of them.

In 1784, after peace was assured, an effort was made to form the various parishes in the Colonies into dioceses, and St. Paul's, of Chester, was one of the churches which joined in the Act of Association, and sent Dr. William Currie and James Withey to represent the parish in the preliminary meeting in Philadelphia, March 29, 1784, to bring about such form of church government, and at the meeting in Christ Church, in that city, May 24, 1785, when the Diocese of Pennsylvania was formed, the delegates from St. Paul's were John Crosby, Jr., and John Shaw.



In the summer of 1826, two strangers without means, died in the Borough, and, being no Potter's Field here, their bodies were buried on the western side of Welsh street, or Love Lane, as it was then called, below Third street, and just outside of St. Paul's churchyard. The bank then, as with country highways, was higher than the roadway, and the dead strangers were buried therein. The Philadelphia papers of that date contained several articles reflecting on the Borough authorities, for not providing a suitable place to deposit the bodies of these unfortunate men. For many years their graves could be pointed out and the superstitious colored people always passed the spot with rapid steps, the beating of their hearts much accelerated, and they looked backward frequently as they hurried by. It is said that the lassies, as they neared the spot while walking with the gallants of that day, drew more close to the sides of their male companions, as if for shelter against some imagined horror. In time the coffins and bodies crumbled away, not a vestige of them being found when the sidewalk was cut down.

In 1835, the old Church proving too small for the accommodation of the congregation, extensive repairs were made to the ancient edifice. The old pews were increased in number, each of the large square ones were made into two small ones, the high backs lowered, the double doors walled up, a gallery built across the western end, and under it the main entrance to the Church was made. The old pulpit with the sounding board was not removed, and the great oriel window to the east, in the rear of the clergyman's desk, was not disturbed. These changes made it necessary to remove the old Sandelands tablet. It was placed in the wall on the outside of the building, and during the spring, when the stonework was being whitewashed, it was repeatedly treated to a coat of that abominable compound by the sexton's wife, who did all chores of that character about the Church. The ancient bell tower was torn down and a small belfry built in the roof, at the western end of the building. The bell, which with such difficulty had been procured from England more than a century before, had become damaged by long service, and it was determined to have it recast. George W. Piper and J. Gifford Johnson took the bell in a wagon to Philadelphia, to Wiltbank's foundry, for that purpose. Before this bell was recast the foundry was destroyed by fire, and the heat was so



great that tons of metal were fused into a mass. Wiltbank, however, furnished a bell, but it is more than probable that not an ounce of the material in the old one cast by Roger Rice entered into the composition of the one which hangs in the belfry of the present Church. No doubt but that the good people of that day believed they were doing a wise act in disturbing the antiquated appearance of the ancient structure and decking it out in modern toggery, just as their successors fifteen years afterwards were actuated by the same idea when they razed the entire building to the ground, and that, too, without getting enough stones from the ruins to lay a third of the basement of the new edifice. Matters drifted on with the Parish until 1850, when the change in the current set in, and Chester, after slumbering a century and a half, started into activity. St. Paul's Church awakened with the rest, and began to make provisions for the new order of things. But the error of that day, and it was a serious one, consisted in destroying absolutely the old sanctuary.

The new Church structure, which was erected on the north side of Third street, was built after a plan prepared by T. U. Walter, architect of Philadelphia, and the cost, it was believed, would not exceed five thousand dollars, although it ultimately cost nearly double that sum. The corner stone was laid July 25, 1859. The building was in the Gothic style, and was approached by a flight of stone steps, one of which was the slab which had formerly covered the remains of Robert French, and to-day is one of the flagging in the sidewalk to the Sunday School on the east side of the Church.

Robert French was a native of Scotland, and was the second husband of James Sandelands' daughter Mary. He was a prominent man in his times in the Lower Counties, and was one of the three gentlemen to whom William Penn addressed his noted letter respecting the pirates, who were reported to have landed near New Castle, "full of gold," about the beginning of the year 1700, and whom he instructed French to discover and arrest, if possible. He was a member of the Church of England, and one of the founders of Immanuel Church, at New Castle. He filled many important offices in the Colonial Government, and after a lengthened illness died in Philadelphia, September 7, 1713, and was interred in St. Paul's Church, in this city. His tombstone, which is the oldest



except that of James Sandelands, and Francis Brooks, to whom I will refer hereafter, in St. Paul's, was an ordinary slab of syenite, six feet long and three and a half feet wide, and the inscription, now almost obliterated, read: "Robert French, obt. Sept. the 7th, 1713." His widow married in about a year after his death, for the third time, Robert Gordon, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Lower Counties on the Delaware.

David, the son of Robert and Mary (Sandelands) French, was a poet of no slight attainments, and his verses are spoken of with warm commendation by Duyckinck Brothers, in their "Cyclopedia of American Literature." "The smoothness and elegance of the versification," they say, "testify to the accomplished scholarship of the writer." He was Attorney General for the Lower Counties, and in 1728, was Prothonotary of the Courts of Delaware, an office he retained during life. He was also Speaker of the Assembly, and was appointed by the High Courts of Chancery in England, one of the Examiners in the case of Penn vs. Lord Baltimore. He died in August, 1742, and was buried in St. Paul's Church, on the 25th of the same month, "by the side of his father." The *Pennsylvania Gazette*, for August 26, 1742, states:

"The Beginning of this Week died at New Castle, David French, Esq., late Speaker of the Assembly of that Government, et., a young Gentleman of uncommon Parts, Learning and Probiety, join'd with the most consummate Good Nature; and therefore universally beloved and regretted. The Corps was brought up to Chester, and yesterday interred in the Church there, the Funeral being attended by many Gentlemen, his Friends, from this city."

The place where the remains of the noted father and son lie in the graveyard is now unknown. In all probability they were interred in the chancel of the old Church building.

The new building was opened Sunday, May 4, 1851, Rev. Mr. Balch, officiating. The constant growth of our busy city and the increase in the number of the worshippers soon began to tax the seating capacity of the new structure, and for several years after the close of the war it became evident that additional room must be provided to meet this want. In 1872, the demand was so imperative that the congregation determined that the Church building must be remodeled, and steps were taken promptly to carry out that end. On Sunday, June 14, 1872, services were held in the





sanctuary for the last time previous to the changes being made, and for ten months the edifice was closed during the alterations. The south end of the Church was demolished, and a new addition, considerably increasing the seating capacity, a handsome Gothic front, which approaches closely to the sidewalk, and a towering steeple and belfry erected. On Sunday, April 13, 1873, the congregation renewed religious services in St. Paul's, and Rev. Henry Brown, the rector, preached a historical sermon.

John Hill Martin, in his "History of Chester," gives the following list of ministers of St. Paul's, from 1702 to the present time:

Rev. Evan Evans	-	-	-	-	-	1702 to 1704
" Henry Nichols,	-	-	-	-	-	1704 " 1708
" George Ross,	-	-	-	-	-	1708 " 1714
" John Humphreys,	-	-	-	-	-	1714 " 1726
" Samuel Hesselius,	-	-	-	-	-	1726 " 1728
" Richard Backhouse,	-	-	-	-	-	1728 " 1749
" Thomas Thompson,	-	-	-	-	-	1751 " ———
" Israel Acrelius,	-	-	-	-	-	1756 " ———
" George Craig,	-	-	-	-	-	1758 " 1781
" James Conner,	-	-	-	-	-	1788 " 1791
" Joseph Turner,	-	-	-	-	-	1791 " 1793
" Levi Heath,	-	-	-	-	-	1796 " 1798
" Joshua Reece,	-	-	-	-	-	1803 " 1805
" William Pryce,	-	-	-	-	-	1815 " 1818
" Jacob Morgan Douglass,	-	-	-	-	-	1818 " 1822
" Rich'd Umstead Morgan,	-	-	-	-	-	1822 " 1831
" John Baker Clemson, D. D.,	-	-	-	-	-	1831 " 1835
" Richard D. Hall,	-	-	-	-	-	1835 " 1837
" Mortimer Richmond Talbot,	-	-	-	-	-	1837 " 1841
" Greenberry W. Ridgely,	-	-	-	-	-	1842 " 1843
" Anson B. Hard, Associate Rector,	-	-	-	-	-	1844 " 1848
" Charles W. Quick,	-	-	-	-	-	1849 " 1850
" Lewis P. W. Balch, D. D.,	-	-	-	-	-	1850 " 1853
" Nicholas Sayre Harris,	-	-	-	-	-	1853 " 1855
" Daniel Kendig,	-	-	-	-	-	1855 " 1859
" M. Richmond Talbot,	-	-	-	-	-	1859 " 1861
" J. Pinckney Hammond,	-	-	-	-	-	1861 " 1863
" Henry Brown,	-	-	-	-	-	1863 " ———

Within the old churchyard are gathered many generations of our people, and therein mingles with the earth the ashes of the earliest proprietors of our city. I believe Joran Keen, the original Swedish settler of Chester, lies in that ancient God's Acre, and to that



fact I ascribe the inclination his descendants and connections manifested for many years to be interred in the present Saint Paul's burial ground. However, it is not my purpose to speculate on the unknown, but to refer briefly to the distinguished dead who lie therein.

Ten years ago, after the addition to the front part of the Church was begun, Dr. Allen showed me, in a closet in the Sunday School, the noted tombstone which for many years attracted the attention of all strangers visiting the old church yard, because of its antiquity, the manner in which the sculptor had performed his work, and the singularity of the inscription. The stone was cracked and in bad condition. The inscription reads:—

FOR  
THE MEMORY OF  
FRANCIS BROOKS,  
who died August  
the 19, 1704  
Aged 50 years.

In Barbarian bondage  
And cruel tyranny  
For ten years together  
I served in Slavery  
After this Mercy brought me  
To my country fair  
And last I drowned was  
In River Delaware.

John Hill Martin states that Francis Brooks was a negro. The inscription would seem to indicate that Brooks was a native of the American Colonies, and as his age at death precludes the idea of his birth in Upland, the chances are that he was a New Englander, or Virginian.

One of the most interesting monuments is that on which is cut the following inscription:

Here lieth  
Paul Jackson, A. M.  
He was the first who received a Degree  
In the College of Philadelphia.  
A Man of virtue, worth and knowledge.  
Died 1767, aged 36 years.

Dr. Paul Jackson was noted as one of the most accomplished



scholars of his day in the Colony. When quite a young man he was appointed to the professorship of the Greek and Latin Languages in the College of Philadelphia, now the University of Pennsylvania. His studious application impaired his health, and in 1758, when General Forbes led the expedition against Fort Du Quesne, he joined the army as a captain of one of the companies of Royal Americans. His active life as a soldier restoring him, he determined to study medicine. After he had received his degree he came to Chester, where he married Jane, daughter of John Mather, and practiced his profession with marked success. He was Chief Burgess of the Borough at the time of his death. His widow, in three years after his decease, married Dr. David Jackson, a brother of her first husband, and who, during the Revolutionary War, was Surgeon General of the Pennsylvania troops.

One of the most noted graves in St. Paul's Ground—at least within recent years, for, strange as it may appear, neither Trego in his "Geography and Historical Accounts of Pennsylvania," or Burrowes' "State Book of Pennsylvania," both published within the last forty years, make any mention of John Morton—is that of the signer of the Declaration of Independence, whose remains lie beneath a plain shaft of marble, nine feet in height, its four sides forming precisely the four cardinal points of the compass. The inscription on the west side of the monolith is as follows:

Dedicated to the memory of  
John Morton,

A member of the First American Congress from the State of Pennsylvania, Assembled in New York in 1765, and of the next Congress, assembled in Philadelphia in 1774.

Born A. D., 1724—Died April 1777.

On the east side of the shaft is as follows:

"In voting by States upon the question of the Independence of the American Colonies, there was a tie until the vote of Pennsylvania was given, two members of which voted in the affirmative, and two in the negative. The tie continued until the vote of the last member, John Morton, decided the promulgation of the Glorious Diploma of American Freedom."

On the south side of the stone is cut the statement:

"In 1775, while speaker of the Assembly of Pennsylvania, John Morton was elected a Member of Congress, and in the ever memorable session of 1776, he attended that august body for the last



time, establishing his name in the grateful remembrance of the American People by signing the Declaration of Independence."

On the north side of the shaft is inscribed the following sentence, to which I desire particularly to direct the attention of the reader. It is:

"John Morton being censured by his friends for his boldness in giving his casting vote for the Declaration of Independence, his prophetic spirit dictated from his death bed the following message to them: 'Tell them they shall live to see the hour when they shall acknowledge it to have been the most glorious service I ever rendered to my country.'"

A little over nine months after the Declaration was signed, John Morton died, his act in voting for the great Charter of American Freedom having hastened his end. It is well known that when the Declaration was made it was accepted by more than two-thirds of the United Colonies as a mistake, and as for a time reverses seemed to wait upon the American arms, the feeling that a fatal error had been made became general. Even the army did not receive the news of the act with enthusiasm, for it will be recalled that when the Continental forces were at Fort Mifflin and the news of the Declaration reached them, they were ordered to form in a square. After prayer by Rev. Dr. Mifflin, the document was read to the soldiers. When it was finished there was, for an instant, a death-like silence. Gen. Thomas Mifflin, who was a gifted speaker, knowing there was no time for reflection, sprang on a cannon, and in a clear, full voice, exclaimed: "My lads, the Rubicon is crossed! Let us give three cheers for the Declaration." The effect was electrical. The men cheered enthusiastically, and although not a note of dissatisfaction was heard, still the correspondence and diaries of that period show how doubtful the measure was believed to be. Morton was in a neighborhood and among friends who desired the war should cease, whose religious conviction was against strife, and hence he was met on all sides with the opinion that he had done a wrong to his country in his vote. The series of disasters which followed immediately after the Declaration was proclaimed, lent additional earnestness to the statement of these "friends"—as the monument designates them—and his sensitive nature could not bear up against their reproaches. John Morton's last year of life was an unhappy one, and although it gave him





immortality of fame, it added not to his joy, for he was harassed and annoyed by the reproaches of many of his constituents. His last words show how deeply their censure had impressed itself upon his mind.

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#### ST. LUKE'S P. E. CHURCH.

The Gothic edifice, located at the south-east corner of Third and Broomall streets, was built of granite, in 1866, the corner stone being laid February 1, of the same year, with appropriate ceremonies. Right Rev. William Bacon Stevens, Bishop of Pennsylvania, officiated, assisted by Rev. Henry Brown and other clergymen. The funds of the building committee having become exhausted before the Church was completed, the congregation for a time worshipped in the edifice which was then without pews, settees being used in their places, and the unplastered walls presenting a rough and uninviting appearance. After Sunday, May 8, 1870, services were held there in the morning and evening, Thomas R. List, a student at the Divinity School of Philadelphia, being employed as lay reader, which duties he discharged until June 19, 1873, when he became rector of the parish. The Church now firmly established, was due largely to the efforts of John Burrows McKeever, Wm. Ward, Samuel Archbold, Samuel Eccles, Jr., Wm. H. Green, Wm. A. Todd, Major Joseph R. T. Coates, and their wives and other ladies of St. Paul's Church, the South Ward, and South Chester. Edward A. Price and wife presented the parish with a handsome communion service—silver tankard, paten, chalices and plates for alms, while F. Stanhope Hill and Mrs. Hannah Depue gave the pulpit Bible. On May 19, 1874, St. Luke's Church was admitted into the Diocesan Convention, Samuel Archbold and William Ward being the first lay deputies. In 1874, John Burrows McKeever, who was an ardent friend of the new parish, died, and through the efforts of Rev. Mr. List a memorial font was placed in the church in whose behalf he labored so zealously. In September, 1875, Rev. Mr. List, having received a call to a church in Philadelphia, re-



signed the rectorship. In October of the same year, Rev. George Clifford Moore, the present rector, was called, and almost immediately after his installation, he began the advocacy of the abolition of pew rents substituting therefor voluntary contributions—or envelope system. In 1876, Charles Kenworthy bequeathed \$350 to the parish, which sum was applied towards liquidating a mortgage debt, and the following year, Elizabeth Kerlin, by will, gave \$150, which was used in a like manner, until in 1880, the entire debt was extinguished. The parish, at present, is in a flourishing condition.

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#### **ST. MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL.**

The imposing Catholic Church of St. Michael's is the second sanctuary erected on the site, the first having been razed in 1874 to make room for the present edifice. The church organization extends backward in the history of our city forty years. In 1842 a number of Catholics, employed in this neighborhood—the nearest church being located nine miles distant—determined to establish one of that denomination in the borough. Application was made to Rt. Rev. Francis Patrick Kendrick, Bishop of Philadelphia, for permission to organize a congregation and erect a church in Chester. In response to the request the Bishop assigned Rev. Philip Sheridan to the parish and earnestly did he labor to accomplish the end in view. July 12, 1842, a lot was purchased on Edgemoor road and September 23, of the same year, the corner stone was laid by Bishop Kendrick. June 25, of the year following the church was dedicated to Almighty God under the patronage of St. Michael, the Archangel, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Moriarty preaching the dedicatory sermon. For many years the building was the most noticeable in Chester, and so conspicuous was it that the gilded cross, surmounting the lofty spire, could be seen glittering many miles away, as the town was approached in any direction. For nearly seven years no regular pastor was assigned to the parish. Occasional visits were made by Fathers Sheridan, Lane, Souren, Walsh, Amat, and Dr. O'Hara, until July 12, 1850, when Rev. Arthur P. Haviland, who



had been ordained a priest in Philadelphia, June 29, of the same year, was appointed to the charge of St. Michael's parish. So faithfully did he labor, that in a short time the building became too small to accommodate the worshippers, and for many years the parish struggled under that difficulty

In 1854, the parsonage adjoining the sanctuary was built and the same year Father Haviland was assigned an assistant, Rev Patrick McEnroe. On September 20, 1858, a bell, the present one, weighing 1,000 pounds, was raised to its designated place in the tower, and for almost a quarter of a century its well-known tones have daily been heard in our thriving town. On the occasion of raising the bell to its allotted place a large concourse of people was present, and the services were conducted by the Right Rev. Bishop Wood. In 1867, Father Haviland went to Europe, and during his absence the parish was in charge of his assistant, Rev. Edward McKee, Father McEnroe having been removed to Mauch Chunk. On the return of Father Haviland, Father McKee was assigned to Catasauqua, and Rev. Father Shankey became his assistant for a brief period, to be followed in succession by Rev. Fathers William F. Cook, Thomas McGlynn, Hugh McGlynn, James Timmins and Patrick J. Mackin.

Early in 1873, notwithstanding the parish had been divided and the Church of the Immaculate Heart erected in the South Ward, it became evident that the old edifice was insufficient to accommodate the congregation, and it was resolved to erect a new sanctuary. Before the plans to this end could be fully matured, the financial disturbances in the fall of that year so paralyzed business that it was deemed inexpedient to begin the demolition of the old and the erection of the new edifice until the industrial dejection had, in a measure, abated. In the summer of the following year, permission was granted by the Right Rev. Bishop Wood to demolish the old structure, and rear in its stead a larger and more attractive building. To that end, on July 29, 1874, the pews were taken out of the Church, and the parochial school house, which had been erected in 1866, was prepared for use as a temporary chapel. August 11, following, the excavations for the foundation of the new edifice were made, and on the 31st of the same month the old building was leveled to the earth. The corner stone of the new Church was



laid Sunday, November 1, 1874, by the Right Rev. Bishop Wood. The new structure is 178 feet in length and the facade 42 feet. Its height from the pavement to the eaves is 68 feet, while from the centre of the facade rises a tower of 92 feet in height.

The structure is built of Leipserville granite with polished granite trimmings and columns from Maine. Externally and internally the edifice is artistically and handsomely finished, while the altar and furniture is elaborate and beautiful, making as a whole the most imposing building in the county. Sunday, November 5, 1882, the Church was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies by Right Rev. Bishop Shanahan, of Harrisburg.

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#### **CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY.**

In the spring of 1873, the parish of St. Michael's having become so densely populated and the congregation attending the old sanctuary had grown so large, it was deemed expedient to institute a new Catholic Church in South Ward, and a committee waited on Right Rev. Bishop Wood to that end. After several interviews with the committee the Bishop consented to the division and July 1873, he appointed Rev. John B. Kelley the pastor in charge of the parish, which was named the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Two days after his appointment Father Kelley was drowned while bathing at Atlantic City, and Rev. Thomas J. McGlynn was assigned to the pastorate. The parishioners immediately erected a frame chapel and the congregation was organized therein. Prompt steps were taken toward the building of a permanent Church edifice, and the following fall, September 23, 1874, the corner stone of the brick Gothic Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, at the north-west corner of Second and Norris streets, was laid by the Right Rev. Bishop Wood. The work went steadily onward, and the Church was dedicated the first Sunday of October, 1876. The edifice is 64 feet on Second street, by 108 feet in depth on Norris street. The parsonage on the left of the sanctuary, and in the same order of architecture, was erected in 1877. The parish is now building a three





story brick parochial school house which will conform in style externally to the Church edifice. Rev. Father McGlynn has been in charge of the parish ever since it was organized, and under his immediate supervision all the permanent improvements have been made.

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### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

The Kerlin farm was purchased in 1850 by John M. Broomall and the late John P. Crozer in equal shares, and after a large part of the real estate had been sold so as to repay the original outlay, Mr. Crozer, in 1856, conveyed his interest in all the land remaining to Mr. Broomall, reserving, however, the absolute title in the half square of ground on Penn and Second streets. Mr. Crozer stated at the time of the conveyance that he designed that locality as a site for a Baptist Church. This intention was doubtless due to the fact that previous to the autumn of 1854, occasional religious exercises by Baptist clergymen had been held in Chester, but it was not until the fall of the year mentioned that any regularly stated services were had, when Rev. William Wilder, of the Upland Baptist Church, established worship in the Court House, and it was continued under Mr. Wilder's supervision for four years. In the spring of 1858, Mr. Crozer donated the ground at the northwest corner of Second and Penn streets, seventy feet on the first and one hundred and twenty-seven on the latter, for a Church. During the summer of the same year Benjamin Gartside, at his personal cost, built a chapel 23 by 40 feet, which building, now standing in the rear of the Church, was completed during the month of August, and worship was held there every Sunday afternoon. Rev. Miller Jones, then stationed at Marcus Hook, and Rev. William Wilder, conducted the services. In the spring of 1863, an effort was made to erect a building and to have the congregation recognized as a Church, but the public excitement consequent on the battle of Gettysburg postponed definite action until September 24, 1863, when the chapel, built by Mr. Gartside, was dedicated as the

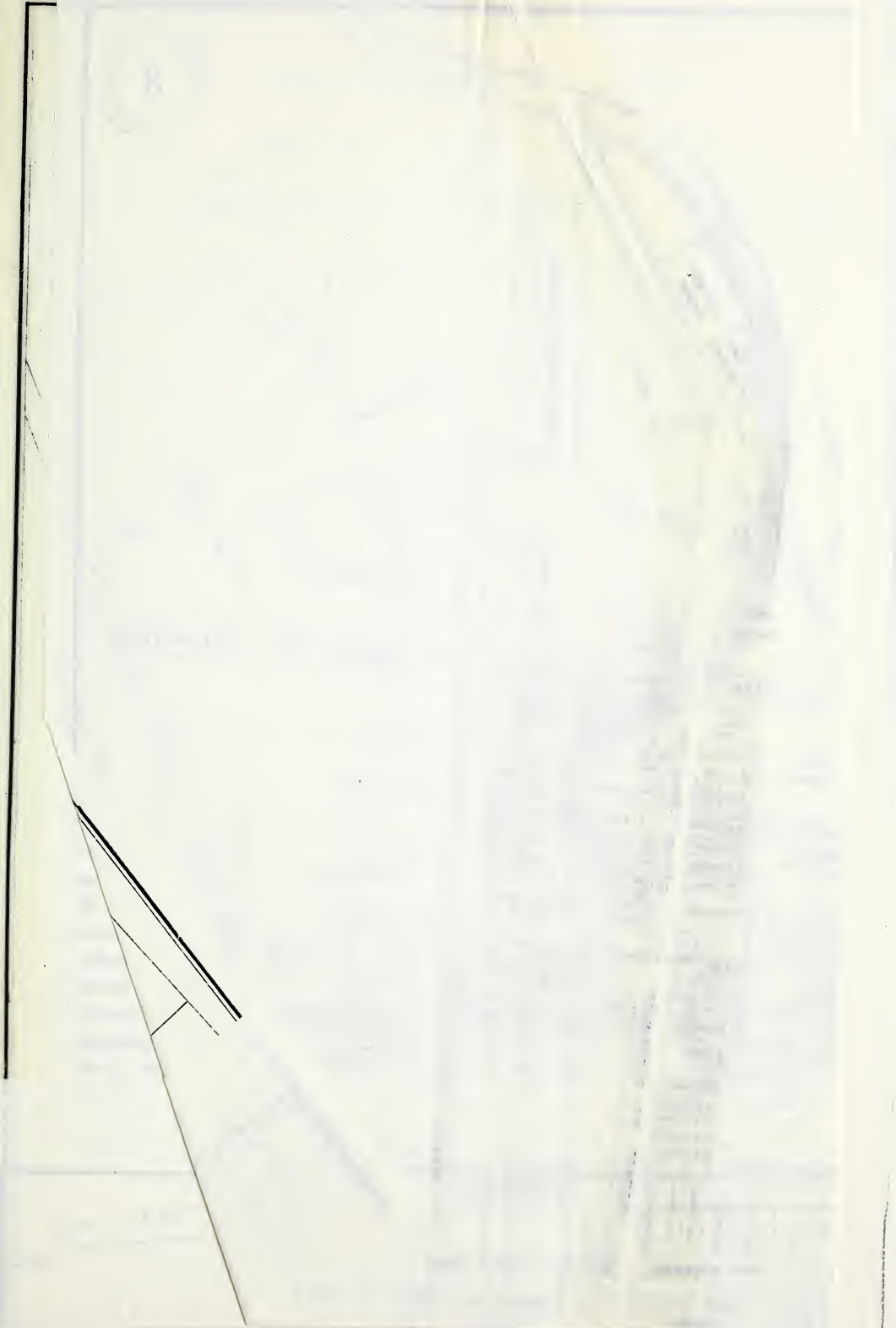


First Baptist Church of Chester, and Rev. Levi G. Beck was, May 24, 1864, ordained its first pastor.

The same year a sufficient sum was pledged to the building fund to justify the building of a sanctuary. The corner stone was laid July 2, 1864, and in the fall the edifice was so far advanced that the lecture room could be used for religious services. The work on the Church was continued, and in the fall of the following year all had been completed, but as it had been decided that the main apartment should not be used until the debt of the building committee, amounting in all to \$16,000, had been discharged, it required several weeks to gather the fund. This was done, and December 28, 1865, the Church was dedicated, Rev. J. Wheaton Smith, D. D., officiating on that occasion. After two years' pastorate, Rev. Mr. Beck was elected Secretary of the Baptist General Association of Pennsylvania, which office he accepted, and resigned his charge of the Church in April, 1866. For several months the congregation was without a regular minister, until November, 1866, when Rev. Andrew Fuller Shanafelt was called and assumed the duties of the pastorate in December of the same year. During his ministry, James Irving presented the lot on Second street, immediately adjoining the Church, for a parsonage, and Benjamin Gartside erected the present building at his personal cost. In 1874, Mr. Shanafelt's health was so much impaired that he was granted a vacation to travel in Europe and the Holy Land. He returned in the fall apparently much improved, but his application to duty brought on a return of his physical weakness, causing his death March, 1875. The following July, Rev. Z. T. Downen became the pastor and for two years remained in charge, when he resigned August, 1877, and returned to England. In November of the same year, Rev. A. G. Thomas, the present pastor, was called and began his ministerial work in the following December.



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**MADISON STREET M. E. CHURCH.**

The name "Chester" appears in the minutes of the Philadelphia Conference in the list of appointments of preachers as early as the year 1783, when Revs. Robert Cann and John Milburn were assigned to that circuit. They, in 1789, were succeeded by Revs. William Dougherty and James Campbell, and the latter, in turn, in 1790, were followed by Revs. Sylvester Hutchinson and John Cooper. Notwithstanding these appointments it is very doubtful whether, at those times, there were any Methodists in the ancient Borough of Chester, the name being given to a circuit extending in territory from the river Delaware nearly to the Susquehanna, and from Philadelphia county to the Maryland line.

The first absolute knowledge we have of a meeting of that denomination is in 1818, when John Kelley and his wife, Esther, moved to this place. Mr. Kelley had been a local preacher in St. George's Church, Philadelphia, and shortly after locating in Chester held services in his own house, where he organized a class. The circuit preacher soon afterwards established a regular appointment for preaching, and on Sundays religious services were held in the Court House for many years. In that structure the noted Bishop Asbury, it is said, preached on several occasions. The denomination grew gradually, and several attempts were made to raise funds sufficient to build a house to meet in, but all efforts failed to that end, until in 1830, sufficient means had been obtained to justify the congregation in erecting, not without considerable difficulty, a stone Church on Second street, at the corner of Bevan's Court, which building was greatly due to the energy and efforts of the late David Abbott, and was named in honor of the Bishop, "Asbury Chapel." The society was still largely dependent on the circuit minister, although more frequently the services were conducted entirely by the local preachers. The congregation attending the Church had grown so large in 1845 that Chester was made a station and Rev. Isaac R. Merrill was appointed pastor in that year.

During his pastorate, in 1846, the congregation erected the sec-



onl stone meeting house, on Fifth street, below Market, which, in 1873 they sold to Tuscarora Tribe of Red Men, No. 29, who changed it into a hall. At the present time the old building has again been devoted to the purposes for which it was built, and is occupied by the congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1847, Mr. Merrill was succeeded by Rev. Levi Storks,\* who, in 1848, was followed by Rev. John Shields. In 1849, Rev. Newton Heston\* was appointed, and continued until 1851. In 1850, the year when Chester began to develop rapidly, the Church had 302 members. Rev Samuel G. Hare\* was appointed in 1851, and was followed the succeeding year by Rev John B. Maddux,\* who continued pastor until 1854, when Rev. Wm. Mullin was appointed in his stead, and in 1856 was followed by Rev. John W. Arthur.\* Rev. Allen Johns\* was appointed pastor in 1858 and the following year was succeeded by Rev. John Ruth.\* During the latter's pastorate, in 1860, the membership had grown to 322. Rev. William Urie\* was assigned to the charge of the Church in 1861, and was succeeded in 1863, by Rev. James E. Meredith, who, after he ceased to be its pastor became a clergyman of the Episcopal Church and at the present time is located in Texas, as rector of a parish of that denomination. Mr. Meredith was followed in 1866 by Rev. Henry E. Gilroy, and in 1869, Rev. James Cunningham was appointed to succeed him. The old meeting house on Fifth street was now unable to accommodate the number of worshippers, and it was determined to erect a new edifice. To that end a lot on the north-east corner of Seventh and Madison streets was purchased, and the corner stone of the new Church building laid on Wednesday, July 17, 1872, Rev. Henry Brown, rector of St. Paul's, and Rev. A. W. Sproull, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, assisting Rev. James Cunningham in the ceremonial and religious services on that occasion. The new Church, which was built of green serpentine stone, with granite trimmings and corner blocks and finished very tastefully and at much expense, was dedicated May 3, 1874. During the greater part of the time the building of the edifice was going on Rev. John B. Maddux\* was the minister, having succeeded Mr. Cunningham in the fall of 1872. In 1875, Rev. Jos. Welsh was appointed pastor, and was succeeded in 1878 by Rev. William

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\*Deceased.



C. Robinson. In 1881, Rev. William J. Paxson, the present pastor, was appointed. The Church is in a most flourishing condition, its membership in 1880 being 626, and it has largely increased in that respect since that time.

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#### TRINITY M. E. CHURCH.

In 1865, the membership and congregation of the Fifth Street Methodist Church had so increased that it was deemed proper by the Quarterly Conference to effect a Church organization in South Ward, and to that end thirty members held regular religious worship in the Crozer Academy, on Second street, west of Franklin. In the summer of the same year, the congregation began the building at the corner of Third and Parker streets, known as Trinity Church, Rev. Mr. Twiggs, now of Wilmington Conference, being then pastor in charge. The edifice had been roofed in, when, in October, 1865, a terrific north-east storm utterly demolished the building, heaping it into the cellar a mass of ruins. There the debris remained until 1866, when the congregation, under the direction of Rev. Wm McCombs, as pastor, erected a frame chapel on the ground to the west, now used by D. H. Burns, as a marble yard, and the same year built what is now the Sunday School. The main structure during the same year was re-commenced and pushed forward until it was roofed in. The debt of the congregation amounted to \$20,000. In the fall of the year the chapel was completed and dedicated, on which occasion a sum of \$5,000 was raised, and to that amount the debt was extinguished. In the spring of 1867, Rev. Isaac Mast was appointed, and continued in charge for two years, during which period \$5,000 additional of the debt was paid off, the floors of the main Church laid, and the membership largely increased. In 1869, Rev. George W. F. Graff became the pastor, and continued in that relationship three years. During his ministry the Church proper was completed and dedicated by Bishop Simpson. It had cost \$6,000 additional, but of that sum \$5,000 was subscribed on dedication day. The congregation



during that period built what is now known as the South Chester M. E. Church, then styled the mission chapel. Independent of the sums mentioned, the congregation raised \$10,000, and applied it towards liquidating the indebtedness of the Church. In the spring of 1872, Rev. Samuel Pancoast was assigned to the pastorate, and during his term of three years the entire debt was discharged. In 1875 Rev. Samuel W. Kurts was appointed and was followed in 1878 by Rev. John F. Crouch, during whose pastorate many important improvements were made to the Church. In 1880 Rev. Noble Frame was assigned to the Church, and in the spring of 1882, Rev. Thomas Kelly, the present pastor, was appointed.

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#### UNION A. M. E. CHURCH.

Early in this century Robert Morris, a slave in the lower part of Delaware, was told by his master, with whom he was a favorite, that his property was about to be levied on by the Sheriff, to make his escape to Chester, and, if possible, get some one to buy him. The latter fled and Charles Lloyd, of the Blue Bell Tavern, Kingsessing, purchased him from his master for \$300 conditioned that when he attained thirty years he was to be free. Morris, who was a religious man, after he was free came to Chester, where he organized this Church. At first only four persons could be found to attend meetings, which were held in a house occupied by a man named Williams, on Third street, west of Concord avenue, but by degrees the movement spread until about 1831, when sufficient means were collected to purchase from Matthew L. Bevan, a lot on Welsh street, and to build a frame Church. The following year Rev. Samuel Smith was appointed local preacher and continued in charge until 1837. His pastorate, however, was financially unsuccessful inasmuch as the expenses of the organization created a burdensome debt, so that Robert Morris once more came to Chester to its assistance and Rev. Benjamin Jefferson was assigned as its pastor, in which capacity he continued until 1874. The latter strove energetically to liquidate the incumbrance and succeeded in clearing the





Church of debt. He was followed in 1875 by Rev. Lorenzo D. Blackston, and the following year Rev. Henry Mode was appointed pastor. Again in 1877, Rev. Benjamin Jefferson was assigned to the charge of the Church and continued until 1880. It was during his second pastorate that the edifice was rebuilt as it is to-day, although many years before a stone building had taken the place of the original frame structure. From 1880 to 1881, Rev. Lewis J. Jones was in charge. In the latter year Rev. Francis H. Norton, the present pastor was appointed.

Fifteen or twenty years ago a mission Church was organized in Media, under the supervision of Union Church and is now a flourishing body, while the membership of the parent Church has largely increased.

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#### **ASBURY A. M. E. CHURCH.**

This religious body was organized by Rev. Stephen Smith, of Philadelphia, October 26, 1845. The same year the congregation purchased the Church property on Second street, east of Market, for \$700, at which location they have continued to worship for nearly forty years. At first, as with all Methodist Churches in this city, the body was supplied at times by circuit preachers, but generally the services were conducted by local clergymen. In 1849, Rev. Henry Davis was appointed the first regular pastor and was succeeded in 1850 by Rev. H. G. Young, who in turn was followed in 1853 by Rev. J. G. Bulah. In May, 1854, Rev. James Holland was assigned to the Church and was succeeded in 1856 by Rev. Adam Driver, who was followed in 1858 by Rev. J. G. Bulah. In 1860, Rev. J. G. Carrish was appointed, and in 1861, Rev. G. W. Johnson became pastor. The next year Rev. W. D. N. Schureman was assigned to the Church, and in 1863, Rev. Jeremiah Young was appointed pastor, and during his ministry the Church was rebuilt. He was followed in 1869 by Rev. G. Boyer, and in 1871 Rev. G. T. Waters became pastor. He was followed in 1874 by Rev. L. C. Chambers, and in 1877, Rev. T. Gould succeeded him. In 1879,



Rev. J. S. Thompson was assigned to the Church and in 1881, the present pastor, Rev. C. C. Felts, was appointed, and during his ministry the congregation purchased a parsonage on Madison street, above Sixth. The Church has also sent out its mission body in the William Murphy Church, on Engle street, below Second, in South Chester. That Church was named by Hon John M. Broomall, in commemoration of the active religious life work of Rev. William Murphy, of this city, and the organization is in a flourishing condition. Its pastors since it was instituted are as follows: Revs G. W. Warter, Jacob P Davis, Henderson Davis, John W. Davis and John W. Norris.

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#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian residents of Chester, previous to 1850, often attended divine services at Leiper's Church, in Rilley, but more frequently the Episcopal or Methodist Churches, both of which denominations had "a local habitation and a name" in the ancient Borough. In the fall of the year stated, the late Rev. James W. Dale, every Sunday afternoon, conducted divine services in the Court House, according to the Presbyterian formula, and continued to preach therein for more than a year. In 1851, I. E. Cochran, Sr., gave the lot, part of the land taken by him in partition of his father's, (John Cochran, the elder,) estate, at the south-east corner of Fourth and Welsh streets, on which to build a Presbyterian Church, and he, together with the late Joseph H. Hinkson, contributed largely of their means towards the erection of the present edifice. Rev. Mr. Dale, who had also labored indomitably in its behalf, dedicated the Church, and in 1853 organized a congregation with seventeen communicants. Mrs. Henrietta Mifflin Clyde, who died September 28, 1874, aged eighty-two years, was the last survivor. Robert Benedict was ordained as the first ruling elder. In the sanctuary since it was renovated, enlarged and adorned about eight years ago, the handsome stained glass memorial windows then placed in the church, in most cases bear the names of persons who



were among its original founders. After it was organized, for two years Rev. J. O. Stedman supplied the pulpit every Sunday. He was followed by Rev. George Van Wyck until 1856, when Rev. Alexander W. Sproull was called and installed as the first regular pastor there. In 1873, the present pastor, Rev. Philip H. Mowry was called, and installed December 11, of that year.

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#### **CHESTER CITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**

The influx of population, west of the Third street bridge was particularly noticeable after the establishment of Reaney's ship yard just previous to the breaking out of the Rebellion, and efforts were made by several gentlemen to organize a Sunday School for religious instruction of the many children in that neighborhood. To that end a school was begun December 14, 1862, in the Academy building, now the Second street Grammar School, with John L. Entwisle, Superintendent; Joseph Hinkson, Assistant; and Abram R. Perkins, Treasurer. The school thus founded grew speedily, and those instrumental in its beginning soon determined to establish the Chester City Presbyterian Church, to be located in the South Ward. The great difficulty was in obtaining a suitable building, which impediment was overcome by the gift of a lot at the southeast corner of Third and Ulrich streets, by Reaney, Son & Archbold, upon which Thomas Reaney, who was warmly interested in the undertaking, built the present edifice at his personal cost. The Church was begun in the summer of 1865 and completed the following year. The furnishing and upholstering of the sanctuary was principally done at the joint expense of Mr. Perkins and Mr. Reaney. While the congregation was worshipping in the lecture room, the Church proper being unfinished, an application was made to the Presbytery of Philadelphia for organization, and on February 15, 1866, the congregation elected John X. Miller and Peter G. Rambo, elders, who were thereupon ordained in those offices by a committee appointed by Presbytery. February 25, 1866, the congregation called Rev. Martin P. Jones as pastor at a salary of \$1000, and the committee



was empowered, at their discretion, to advance the sum to \$1200 a year. He accepted the call and was ordained April 12, 1866. He remained in charge of the Church until January 1, 1869, he having tendered his resignation several months before. The Church was without a minister from that date until June 22 of the same year, when Rev. Augustus T. Dobson, who had been called the 25th of the previous March, at a salary of \$1500, was installed. The subsequent failure of the firm of Reaney, Son & Archbold crippled the Church greatly, but the earnest efforts of the congregation, in conjunction with the pastor, relieved it from its embarrassment. John Henry Askin contributed \$500, and Abram R. Perkins, \$150. The congregation notified the pastor that, under the circumstances, his salary must be reduced to \$1000 a year, and at that sum it continued until he resigned in October, 1881. Rev. Thomas J. Aikin, the present pastor, was called December 6, 1881, and installed April 12, 1882.

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### **THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**

This memorial church—it was built to commemorate the reunion of the old and new school Churches—is located at the southwest corner of Twelfth and Upland streets. The lot was purchased in 1871, and the building was erected as a Mission Sunday School by the First Presbyterian Church, but when the division in that congregation took place, those who withdrew accepted the Sunday School building in unfinished condition, determining to constitute therein a Third Presbyterian Church, which was fully consummated October 16, 1872, with forty-two persons enrolled as members. The congregation, after it was organized worshiped in the chapel until July of the following year, when the western end of the building was removed and twenty-five additional feet added to its length. The lot and building had cost nearly \$15,000. After the organization of the Church, Rev. Dr. Edwin W. Bower, of Lincoln University, officiated as temporary minister until February 13, 1873, when Rev. Charles F. Thomas was unanimously elected to the pastorate. He





was installed April 16, 1873, at a salary of \$1600, which was subsequently increased by the congregation to \$1800, but his health failing he resigned February 20, 1878, Rev. Dr. Bower was called April 3, 1878, but he declined and the congregation, May 31th, of the same year, called Rev. Thomas McCauley, the present pastor, at the same salary received by Mr. Thomas. Mr. McCauley accepted October 1, and was installed the 10th of the same month.





## MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS.

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PREVIOUS to the Revolution the Associators, a body of troops was raised in Chester county, in 1748, to resist the depredations of French and Spanish privateers, which seems to have preserved its organization until the War of Independence, but it is hardly possible at this late day to designate accurately the men from Chester who were members of the several companies. During the Whisky Insurrection, a troop of horsemen from Chester, commanded by William Gratum, joined the forces under Governor Lee, of Virginia, who was ordered by Washington to suppress that outbreak. In the war of 1812, the Delaware County Fencibles, commanded by Captain James Serrill, and the Mifflin Guards, Captain Samuel Anderson, volunteered for the war, but being sent, with other troops, into cantonment at Camp Dupont, to defend the Delaware from Admiral Cockburn and General Ross' threatened attack in the summer of 1814, they did not take active part in any engagement. The Delaware County Troop was organized during that war with Dr. Joseph Wilson, Captain, which continued under Captain Pearson Smith, Captain John Hinkson, and subsequently Captain Samuel M. Leiper, until 1836, when it was disbanded. The Delaware County Blues was raised during the war of 1812, and was encamped at Marcus Hook under the command of Captain George Hawkins, and afterwards by Captain George Litzenberg. It preserved its organization until 1836, when it was disbanded. The Pennsylvania Artillerists was organized about 1819 or 1820. Its first Captain was John James Richards, whose widow—an Anderson—died recently in the old family mansion on Fifth street. He held the office until his death, in 1822, when he was succeeded in com-



mand by Joseph Weaver, Jr., then William Martin, Samuel A. Price, and finally John K. Zeilin. It was disbanded just previous to the Mexican War, in 1844 or '45. A Rifle Company was organized about 1822, with Henry Myers, Captain, and continued until 1827, when it disbanded. From its fragments a new company—The Harmony Rangers—was formed, Captain Jesse L. Green, commanding, who was succeeded by Captain Simon Leany. It was disbanded in 1842. In the late Civil War the record of the city of Chester and county of Delaware is most honorable. Of the troops that responded to the call of the Government I append the following resume:—April 29, 1861, the Union Blues, commanded by Captain Henry B. Edwards, were mustered into the 9th Pennsylvania. Company K, of the 26th Pennsylvania, was recruited in this county and commanded by Captain William L. Grubb. The Delaware County Fusileers, Captain Simon Litzenberg, became Company B, of the 124th Pennsylvania. Company E, 119th Regiment, was recruited and commanded by Captain William C. Gray.

The "Archy Dick Guards," Captain Wm. Cooper Talley, became Company F, 13th Pennsylvania Regiment, while Gideon's Band, Captain Norris L. Yarnall, became Company D, and the Delaware County Volunteers, Captain James Barton, Jr., became Company H, of the same Regiment. The Slifer Phalanx, Captain Samuel A. Dyer, became Company F, of the 1st Pennsylvania Reserves or 13th of the line. In July, 1861, Captain W. L. Laws recruited a cavalry company which was mustered into service as Company I, 60th Regiment, 3d Pennsylvania Cavalry, William K. Grant being substituted as Captain. Besides these organizations there were emergency companies that responded previous to the battles of Antietam and Gettysburg. "Chester Guards," Company K, 10th Pennsylvania Militia, Captain William R. Thatcher; Company B, 16th Regiment, "The Mechanic Rifles of Chester," Captain Jonathan Kershaw; "Delaware County Guard," Company D, 16th Pennsylvania Militia, Captain John H. Barton; Company F, 16th Pennsylvania Militia, Captain Joseph Wilcox; "Darby Rangers," Company H, 16th Pennsylvania Militia, Captain John C. Andrews; Company A, 37th Pennsylvania Militia, Captain William Frick; Company A, 197th Pennsylvania Volunteers, or hundred-days' men,



Captain James Barton, Jr.; "Upland Volunteers," Captain George K. Crozer; Company C, Captain John M. Broomall; Company G, Captain Alfred Bunting; Company H, Captain J. C. Andrews; Company I, Captain C. D. M. Broomhall, were all part of the 29th Emergency Volunteer Regiment, and Company A, Captain William Frick; Company F, Captain Henry Huddleson, composed those numbers in the 37th Regiment of ninety-days' militia, and were all recruited in Delaware County, and the major part of them in the City of Chester. Among the officers from this county who attained the command of regiments by promotion, were Brevet Brigadier General William Cooper Talley, Brevet Brigadier General Charles L. Leiper, Colonel Samuel A. Dyer, Lieutenant Colonel William C. Gray, and Lieutenant Colonel Simon Litzenberg.

Jan. 29, 1867, Post Wilde, No. 25, Grand Army of the Republic, composed of honorably discharged soldiers of the United States Army, was organized at Chester, and among its members are persons who are entitled to wear the stars of a Brigadier General and the gold and silver eagles of Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel, with many others who attained lesser grades in the military services of the country.

The Chester City Safeguards was the name of a colored company of militia, organized in 1870, and commanded in succession by Andrew Johnson, Isaac B. Colwell, and Isaac Emory, until the company, in the fall of 1872, was disbanded.

September 12, 1872, Company A of the Gartside Rifle Battalion was organized with Captain Daniel Brown commanding. Captain Brown subsequently was appointed Major, and George F. Springer was elected Captain of Company A in his stead. Company B organized March 19, 1873, Captain David S. Gwynn commanding, but he resigned, and the company elected William A. Todd as Captain. The organization finally disbanded. In July, 1875, the Morton Rifles, so called in honor of John Morton, the Signer of the Declaration of Independence, was organized with James Barton, Jr., as Captain, and in August, 1875, was mustered into the 11th Regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania. Captain Barton was subsequently promoted aid to General Dobson, and Charles A. Story, Jr., was elected to the captaincy. Subsequently Captain Story resigned and John M. Householder was chosen to succeed





him. During the riots of July, 1877, the company was ordered to Pittsburg, where it did good service, but was the next year mustered out. The Hartranft Rifles were organized January, 1876, by Captain Perry M. Washabaugh, and April 20, 1876, were mustered into service as Company B, 11th Regiment, and subsequently, after the appointment of Captain Washabaugh to the staff of the Brigadier General commanding the division, he was succeeded by Robert H. Wood, and followed by William H. Williams. This company was also called into active duty during the Pittsburg riots, and was finally mustered out of service.

Company A, 11th Regiment, National Guards of Pennsylvania, was mustered into service March 30, 1881, with B. F. Morley, Captain; Frank G. Sweeney, First Lieutenant; and John J. Hare, Second Lieutenant. The company soon showed such efficiency in drill, that when the State authorities consolidated the military force of the Commonwealth, that, although the youngest company in the State, by general order No. 11, July 8, 1881, the title of the company was changed to B, 6th Regiment, First Brigade, National Guards of Pennsylvania. In the summer of the same year a scheme was broached by Lieutenant Colonel Washabaugh towards erecting an armory, and to that end a charter was obtained, stock was taken by several prominent citizen, a lot, 60 feet in front by 120 feet in depth, was purchased, and an armory, after a design by P. A. Welsh, was built. The structure begun August 4, 1881, costing, including land, about \$15,000, is too recent to require fuller description here. Sufficient it is to say that the home of one of the best, if not the best drilled company in the service of the State, is an ornament and credit to our city. The building, located on the south side of Fifth street, east of Crosby street, was opened on Tuesday, December 7, 1881, with a fair which lasted ten days and yielded several thousand dollars towards the liquidation of the debt of the armory company.

The roll of Company B at the present time is as follows:

Captain, Frank G. Sweeney; First Lieutenant, Edward D. Sparks; Second Lieutenant, James A. Campbell.

Sergeants—First, William C. Gray; Second, George C. de Lanoy; Third, J. Engle Baker; Fourth, T. Edward Clyde; Fifth, J. Frank Fairlamb.



Corporals—First, Horace F. Larkin; Second, D. Edwin Irving; Third, John A. Ladomus; Fourth, Harwell A. Cloud; Fifth, James Alexander Cochran; Sixth, William J. Morgan; Seventh, Charles B. Ross; Eighth, S. Ulrich Ward.

Privates—Milton M. Allen, James H. Birtwell, Theodore Blakeley, W. Irving Babcock, Frank L. Brown, Alfred E. Hinkson, Lewis L. Hinkson, Carleton Y. James, Samuel A. Price, W. N. Sparks, Harry E. Wilson, David M. Unangst, S. Warren Barnes, William S. Broughton, Charles B. Carling, William H. Derbyshire, William J. Dickson, George C. Johnson, Henry T. Johnson, Edward B. Kirkman, Matthew F. Ross, Anson Rawnsley, Garrett G. Slawter, George C. Worrall, John M. B. Ward, Dean J. Deakyne, Frank B. Eddy, Ulysses S. Grant, Emil O. Haas, George B. Minnick, Robinson McCurdy, Henry S. McIlvain, William H. Schureman, George B. Smedley, Horace F. Temple, Robert P. Wilson, William H. Lodge, Edward A. Price, Arthur G. Rose.





NOTES RESPECTING NEWSPAPERS OF  
CHESTER.

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PERHAPS there is not a town of like population in this Commonwealth which can show as many newspapers born and died therein, as will be found in the annals of Chester. The earliest publication was the *Post Boy*. It was a weekly folio, 15½ by 9½ inches in size, and an inspection of its columns show how little attention was at that time given to passing events in the immediate neighborhood. It was published by Butler & Worthington, November 19, 1817, and so continued until the latter part of the year 1824, when Butler sold his interest to Eliphalet B. Worthington, who continued its issue until 1826, when he transferred it to Joseph M. C. Lescure, who, after his purchase, changed the title to the *Upland Union*, and increased the size of the paper. Mr. Lescure continued its publication under the last name until 1838, with indifferent success, when he sold it to Joseph Williams and Charles T. Coates. The newspaper enterprise, however, proving unremunerative, its proprietor sold it to Alexander Nesbit, and he in turn disposed of it to Alexander MacKeever, who continued its publication until 1852, when he discontinued it. His son, Samuel A. MacKeever, was afterwards connected with the press of the city of New York, and in 1874 published, in connection with James B. Mix, "The New York Tombs," a highly colored, and in several instances inaccurate, story of that celebrated prison and the noted criminals who had been confined therein.

During the exciting Presidential campaign of 1828, when so many aspirants were struggling for the executive honors, William



Russell began the publication of *The Weekly Visitor*, and Strange N. Palmer was employed to edit it in the interest of the opponents of the Democratic party, to which political organization the *Upland Union* gave earnest support. The owner and editor of the new organ disagreed in their views, which difficulty terminated by a sale of the establishment to thirty gentlemen, warm advocates of John Quincy Adams, Palmer being still retained to edit the paper. The fact being noised abroad, the *Upland Union* dubbed its opponent "The Son of Many Fathers," and predicted its early demise. In that prognostication it was right, for at the close of the campaign it was sold to Thomas Eastman, who continued it, and it languished until 1832, when it died. The printing office was purchased by Young Singleton Walter in the following year, who removed the material to Darby, where, on August 31, 1833, he issued the first number of

THE DELAWARE COUNTY REPUBLICAN.

Under Harrison's administration Mr. Walter was appointed Custom House officer at Marcus Hook, and continued in that position under Tyler until the latter's course became so obnoxious to the Whigs that Mr. Walter resigned. In November, 1841, he removed his printing office to Chester, where he continued the publication of the *Republican* until his death, May 22, 1882. During the fifty years he was its editor it grew in size until it became almost four times as large as when first issued. Mr. Walter was Postmaster under Lincoln's first administration, member of the Assembly for two terms, from 1877 to 1879, and was a member of Council, both Borough and city, and during the years 1874 and 1875 was President of the latter body. September 1, 1882, *The Delaware County Republican* was sold to Ward R. Bliss, under whose management the oldest paper in the county gives signs of increased enterprise and enlarged activity.

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DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

In 1835, Caleb Pierce established a weekly newspaper under the above title in advocacy of Mr. Muhlenberg's candidacy as Governor,





but it was short lived. In October, 1856, John G. Michelon began the publication of a weekly called the *Upland Union and Delaware County Democrat*, and its life was also but a span. October 5, 1867, the *Delaware County Democrat* was established by D. B. Overholt, whose interest was shortly afterwards purchased by Dr. J. L. Forwood, who continued the publication of the paper until the fall of 1871, when he sold it to Colonel William Cooper Talley. Early in 1876 John B. McCay purchased it, but shortly afterwards sold it to William Orr, who at the time was publishing the *Democratic Pilot*, a paper which had been started in 1872, and had died and been resurrected several times. The papers were merged into one, and were sold by the Sheriff, on an execution against Orr, to Dr. Forwood, in 1878, who in turn sold it to William A. Gwynne. The latter, in August, 1879, disposed of his interest to Henry Frysinger, who issued the first paper under his editorial change, September 4, 1879. At the time Mr. Frysinger purchased the *Democrat* it had less than 250 *bona fide* subscribers and only a nominal advertising patronage. It was purchased for the estimated value of the printing materials belonging to the office, the good will being considered valueless. The energy, enterprise and talent which Mr. Frysinger devoted to his paper has made it a remunerative and valuable property, and its circulation has very largely increased. Being the only Democratic newspaper in the county, the field for extending its circulation is yet both broad and inviting.

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DELAWARE COUNTY ADVOCATE.

John Spencer and Dr. William Taylor, on October 27, 1866, issued *The Chester Advertiser*, a weekly advertising publication, which was continued for more than a year, when it was suspended. John Spencer subsequently, July 16, 1868, began the publication of *The Chester Advocate*, at first a gratuitous sheet, the advertisements it contained paying for its circulation. The paper was so well conducted and its reading matter so well selected, that it soon made a permanent lodgment in public regard, and from time to time it was enlarged, a subscription of fifty cents and afterwards a dollar a year being charged, until it is now a folio sheet,



31 by 45 inches in size. It has won its way to popularity by its intrinsic merit, and has become one of the best weekly newspaper properties in the neighborhood of Philadelphia.

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#### CHESTER EVENING NEWS.

Saturday, June 1, 1872, the first number of the *Evening News* was issued by F. Stanhope Hill, as editor and proprietor. It was a folio sheet, 18 by 25. The title of the paper was changed June 17th, of the same year, to *Chester Evening News*. The first month of its publication the venture was regarded by the inhabitants of the city in no kindly spirit, and many were the prognostications of ultimate failure, but by degrees it won its way in public favor. Mr. Hill, however, October 1, 1872, sold his interest to William A. Todd, and the latter continued its publication until his death, August 18, 1879, when it was purchased by William H. Bowen, Oliver Troth and Charles D. Williamson. During Mr. Todd's ownership the circulation had so increased that he was compelled to twice enlarge the presses to meet the growing popular demand. The new owners assumed the conduct of the paper September 29th, of the same year, and immediately after enlarged it by an addition of two inches to the columns. Mr. Williamson did not take an active part in editing the paper until nearly a year subsequent to its purchase, and in less than twelve months after he began work in the office as city editor, he died, and his interest was purchased by the surviving partners. November 4, 1880, the *News* was again enlarged by an addition of another column to each page, and to meet the steadily increasing circulation its proprietors have twice been compelled to add new presses of enlarged capacity and speed.

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#### CHESTER DAILY TIMES.

Major John Hodgson, who had established the *Jeffersonian* in West Chester, having sold that paper to the present proprietor, came to Chester in the Summer of 1876, and in September of that year issued the first number of the *Chester Daily Times*—the second



daily afternoon paper published in Chester. Mr. Hodgson continued as its editor until his failing health compelled him to sell it, and March 7, 1877, J. Craig, Jr., who had been on the editorial staff since its first issue, purchased the paper. He managed it quite successfully, displaying considerable ability and enterprise in its conduct. On October 20th, of the same year, Mr. Craig sold the *Times* to John Spencer, the proprietor of *The Delaware County Advocate*. The new owner enlarged the paper from five to six columns and otherwise improved it. He continued its publication until April 15, 1882, when he sold it to "The Times Publishing Company," its present owner. The latter had purchased *The Delaware County Gazette*, which, under the title of *The Delaware County Paper*, had been established, in 1876, by Col. William C. Gray, and subsequently passed into the ownership of John McFeeters; then Major D. R. B. Nevin, who changed its name to the *Gazette*, and finally of A. Donath. The *Times*, under its new proprietors, has increased its circulation largely, is enterprising and fearless in the expression of its views and opinions on topics of public interest.

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#### THE WEEKLY REPORTER

is an octavo publication, advertising legal notices, and reporting in full the opinions of the Courts of Delaware County, and was established March 31, 1881, by Ward R. Bliss, Esq. Mr. Bliss has continued *The Weekly Reporter* with marked ability and the pages of the work, when bound, will be an essential addition to the library of every lawyer in the county, and useful as well in that of every attorney in the State.

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#### THE CHESTER BUSINESS MIRROR.

In 1882, *The Chester Business Mirror*, a monthly advertising paper, was published by Edward Frysinger, and is now well established.



In 1843, Edward E. Flavill and Mr. Jackson published **THE CHARIOT**, an advocate of the cause of temperance, but it was shortly after discontinued.

Semi occasionally, in 1848, a small folio, **THE OWL**, was issued in Chester and circulated at night. It was very personal in its articles, and although many of its jibes and hits are pointless now, at the time of its publication it caused much excitement in the ancient Borough.

In May, 1850, S. E. Cohen began the publication of the **CHESTER HERALD**, issuing it monthly, subsequently changing it to a weekly sheet, and finally discontinued it.

In 1857, **THE EVENING STAR**, a literary paper, made its appearance under the auspices of the Washington Literary Society, but as with many similar publications, interest in it abated and it was abandoned.

In 1869, H. Y. Arnold and Wilmer W. James began the publication of a weekly advertising sheet, **THE INDEPENDENT**. Mr. Arnold soon after withdrew and it was continued by Messrs. James & Shields until 1874, when it was discontinued.

**THE DELAWARE COUNTY MAIL** was established November 27, 1872, by Joseph T. DeSilver & Co. November 27, 1876, it was sold to the proprietors of the *Delaware County Paper*, and merged into the latter publication.

The **PUBLIC PRESS** was issued May 3, 1876, by Thomas Higgins and Robert Simpson, but its publication was suspended during the same year.





## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

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### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF CHESTER.

**I**T is impossible in our space to give any extended notice of the Public Schools of Chester. The first movement in the direction of free public institutions we notice about the middle of the last Century, when a lot on the east side of Edgmont Avenue, south of Fourth street, was conveyed to certain persons to erect thereon a free school for Friends' children, which was never done. In 1769, Joseph Hoskins gave a lot of ground, at the southeast corner of Fifth and Welsh streets, for a free school, and contributed largely of his means, in 1770, toward the building itself. This was the starting point of our present system of free public instruction, and it was a most praiseworthy act in the present Board of School Directors of this city that in the year 1882, when putting up a new building, at Fifth and Welsh streets, for the use of the Superintendent, with school-rooms on the second floor, they recognized the noble act of Joseph Hoskins, who, almost forgotten, had slumbered for more than a century in Friends' Graveyard, by designating the new structure, "Joseph Hoskins School."

The registration of scholars in the Public Schools of Chester, at the date of this publication, is 2,239, and the number of school houses are as follows. North Ward—Eleventh and Madison streets, 1; Morton Avenue, 2. Middle Ward—Fifth and Welsh streets, 3. South Ward—Second street, 1; Franklin street, 1; Patterson street, 1; Howell street, 1. Total, 10. The corps of teachers are excellent, the examination of applicants for position as instructors is very thorough, and the general average of education imparted to



the pupil will compare favorably with that of any city in the country. The graduates of the Chester High School are as carefully taught as in most Academies in the land—the Universities excepted—and the system of opening the higher branches of education to both the sexes has resulted most advantageously. The present faculty of the High School is:—Principal, Emma J. Hahn; Assistant Jennie McLaren and Frederica E. Gladwin. The whole system and working of the Public Schools of our city is under the intelligent care and supervision of Prof. Charles F. Foster, who is advocating constantly needed improvements to enlarge the usefulness of our public schools, thus yearly adding to the opportunities of the rising generation to become scholarly at little or no personal expense to themselves or families.

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#### THE PENNSYLVANIA MILITARY ACADEMY.

By Act of Assembly, April 8, 1862, the Pennsylvania Military Academy was incorporated as a university under the title "Chester County Military Academy," and was located at West Chester, with Col. Theodore Hyatt, as its President, where it soon became noted as an institution of learning. Founded during the Rebellion it made a special feature of military instruction, and to the forces of the United States, in the Civil War, it contributed many officers from its roll of students. When Lee's army invaded the State, the battery of the Academy, manned by cadets of the institution and citizens of West Chester was in service for two months and was commended by the authorities. After the close of the war, the Crozer Normal School, which had been used by the government as a hospital, was vacated by the United States, and as the accommodations were superior to those of the building occupied by the institution at West Chester, Col Hyatt leased the premises and moved here in December, 1865. The Pennsylvania Military Academy at its new location grew rapidly in public favor and so largely did the number of students become that it was necessary to erect a building especially calculated for the accommodation of the cadets. In 1867



the institution conferred its first degrees on its graduates, and in September, 1868, the building having been completed in the meanwhile, the Academy occupied its new quarters, to the northeast of the city, a land mark, presenting a prominent appearance when viewed from the north or east in approaching Chester, and especially from the Delaware river. In its new building the Academy, in September, 1868, accommodated 150 cadets and officers.

On the afternoon of February 16, 1882, the main edifice was entirely destroyed by fire, the origin of which is unknown, although the flames were first discovered in the laboratory, then located in the upper story. All attempts to arrest the conflagration proved fruitless, but amid the utmost excitement of the populace the military discipline of the cadets showed conspicuously. As soon as it was recognized that every effort to subdue the flames was useless, the latter promptly and without confusion, rendered most efficient aid in removing personal property from the burning building, and after it was taken out, guarded it in a heavy rain fall, until the police authorities relieved them from that duty. The good services of the cadets, on that occasion, kept the way clear for the firemen, to whom no praise is too flattering, and permitted them to do, as they did, most efficient work. After the destruction of the Academy, in twenty days subsequently the term was resumed temporarily at Ridley Park. The stockholders, as soon as the losses were adjusted by the Insurance Companies, began the erection of a new building. The main structure is 270 feet long, 50 feet in depth, four stories in height, surmounted with a dome which towers many feet above all, presenting a view therefrom unequalled in the county. The building, which was completed ready for occupancy, September 13, 1882, is divided by fire walls, and is believed to be as nearly fireproof as it is possible to render it, while in a sanitary point, as well as in respect to the accommodation to secure the comfort and convenience of its inmates, the new Academy structure is most admirably planned. A laboratory, at some distance from the main edifice, is an ornate and well arranged building, sufficiently removed to render it improbable that any fire which might occur therein could seriously endanger the Military Academy proper. The present Academic staff is composed as follows:

Col. Theodore Hyatt, President and Professor of Greek; Capt.



Charles E. Hyatt, Vice President, Professor of Rhetoric and Elocution; Capt. R. Kelso Carter, Professor of Mathematics and Civil Engineering; Lieut. William P. Duvail, U. S. A., Professor of Military Science and Mathematics; Lieut. Emile L. Feffer, Professor of French, German, Spanish, Latin and Greek; Capt. Benjamin F. Morely, Professor of Chemistry, Physics and Tactics; Edmund Morris Hyde, Professor of Latin, Greek and English Literature; John R. Sweney, Professor of Music; C. S. Fahnstock, Professor of Penmanship, Drawing and English Branches; William B. Ulrich, M. D., Lecturer on Hygienics; Frederick E. Powell, Professor of Mathematics and English Branches; Edgar P. Hershey, Instructor of English Branches.

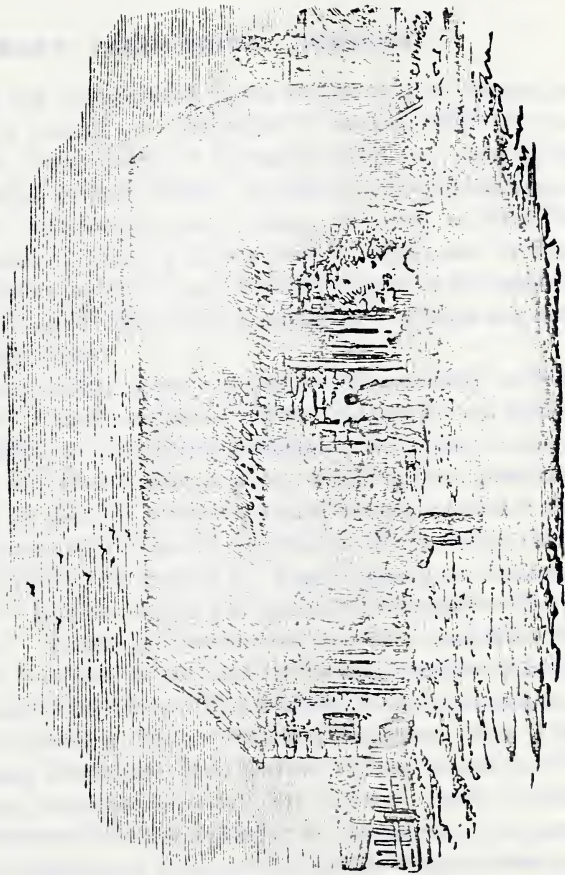
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#### CHESTER ACADEMY.

This institution of learning, located at the southwest corner of Broad and Potter streets, was founded, in 1862, by Charles W. Deans, who had just previous to that date been Superintendent of the Public Schools of Delaware county. It was then known as the Chester Academy and Normal School. In 1865, Professor George Gilbert, then of Philadelphia, purchased Mr. Deans' interest in the Academy, including the school furniture, and at once reorganized the institution, enlarged the accommodations, thoroughly revised and advanced the course of study, and employed additional teachers. The reputation of the Academy steadily advanced, and in 1871, six years after he became Principal of the institution, Prof. Gilbert purchased both the school building and the residence to the east. The aim of the school is to afford facilities for students preparing for college, teaching or for general business, to acquire practical education and to direct them in the course of study necessary to successfully qualify them for the occupations in life which they may select. The present faculty of the Academy comprises George Gilbert, Principal, Instructor in Latin, Greek and the Higher Mathematics; M. Louisa Clancy, Music, French and Literature; Mrs. T. M. Gilbert, Writing, Drawing and History; S. Alice Lees,







PUSKY HOUSE, BUILT 1683, STILL STANDING AT UPLAND.



Primary Department; Addie H. Pyle and Sallie E. Beale, English Branches. The pupilage is about one hundred.

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### **CROZER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.**

Just beyond the incorporated limits of the city of Chester, to the northwest, is located the institution of learning which was established by the Crozer family, of Upland, in 1868, as a memorial of their father the late John P. Crozer. In 1857, Mr. Crozer had begun the erection of the present main building, at a cost of \$45,000, with the intention of locating there a normal school, and in September of the following year it was formally opened as an academy of the higher grades of intellectual training, and as such was continued for several years.

The war storm having burst with fury on the country, early in June, 1862, Mr. Crozer tendered, without charge, to the United States, the building as a hospital, conditioned only that it should be returned to him after it was no longer required, in as good condition as when he placed it at the disposal of the government. The offer was accepted, the necessary changes in the building made, and on June 18, 1862, Dr. George K. Wood, formerly an Assistant Surgeon in the Regular Army, was appointed Surgeon-in-Charge of the hospital. As soon as it was ascertained that a hospital would be established there, on the date last mentioned, a number of ladies organized a society known as "The Soldiers' Relief Association," of which Mrs. Samuel A. Crozer was First Directress; Mrs. Abby Kerlin, Assistant Directress; Mrs. Samuel Arthur, Secretary; Mrs. J. Lewis Crozer, Assistant Secretary; Mrs. John P. Crozer, Treasurer, with a Directress in every township in the county. For some time the sick, disabled and dying soldiers in this hospital were supplied with all the delicacies and luxuries so necessary to tempt the appetite and assuage the anguish of the inmates of that house of bodily suffering. One patient was admitted July 17, 1862, and on the 29th of the same month the steamer "State of Maine" arrived here with two hundred and twenty-three sick and wounded Union



soldiers on board, who had been captured in the Seven Days' Fight before Richmond, and had just been exchanged. The building contained nearly a thousand beds, but so great was the demand made upon the hospital that thirteen hundred persons, including patients, surgeons, attendants and guards, were gathered within its walls. Until the 14th of July, 1863, the hospital was used almost exclusively for wounded Union soldiers, but after the Battle of Gettysburg, the Confederate wounded, left on the field by Gen. Lee, in his retreat, were so many that the Government was compelled to designate a certain hospital for the reception of the Rebels, and the one at Chester was selected for that purpose.

In July, 1862, Rev. John Pinckney Hammond, a brother of Surgeon General Hammond, and at the time rector of St. Paul's Church, Chester, was appointed Chaplain of the hospital. A most unfortunate selection which was accepted with disapprobation by almost all the then residents of Chester, where he was extremely unpopular with his parishioners and the public generally, and ultimately caused much difficulty in the working of the auxiliary bodies connected with the hospital. In addition to this, July 14, 1862, Dr. J. L. Le Conte, the noted entomologist, was appointed to succeed Dr. Wood, and if any thing, a more disastrous selection than Mr. Hammond's, but combined with the latter, was prodigal of evil. The most absurd rules were adopted and enforced respecting visitations to the Hospital, which largely obstructed the unselfish and earnest work of the ladies of "The Soldiers Relief Association," while returning nothing in exchange for the hindrance offered. Petitions for the removal of these obnoxious officers were presented to the appointing power, and at last they were removed in the fall of 1862, but not until Hon. John M. Broomall, the then member of Congress, had repeatedly demanded such action. Dr. Eben Smith succeeded Dr. Le Conte.

After the Hospital was set apart for the reception of Confederate wounded, a picket fence, twelve feet in height was built surrounding the grounds, and guards were stationed to prevent the escape of convalescent prisoners of war. Notwithstanding the vigilance of the authorities, one dark stormy night in August, 1863, Captain Edward Shay, of the 16th Mississippi Regiment, and Lieutenant Davis, of Gen. Trimble's Staff, evaded the guard and escaped.



The Hospital furnished accommodation for more than six thousand wounded soldiers, and many men to-day, North and South, remember with grateful hearts the kindness they received while inmates of the Hospital at Chester. While located here Dr. Elwood Harvey was Assistant Surgeon from July, 1862, to September of the same year; Dr. F. Ridgely Graham from October, 1862, to June, 1863, and Dr. J. L. Forwood from July 21, 1863. Dr. Charles J. Morton was also Assistant Surgeon.

At the conclusion of the war, in 1865, the building was returned to its owner, and in December of the same year, Col. Theodore Hyatt leased the property until the summer vacation of 1868. John P. Crozer, having died March 11, 1866, as soon as the Pennsylvania Military Academy had vacated the building, the Crozer family, as a memorial of their father, as before stated, determined to set it apart as a Theological Seminary, (Baptist.)

The Seminary has, beside the land and buildings, an Endowment Fund of \$250,000, so judiciously invested that the interest therefrom meets fully the ordinary expenses of the Institution. There is also a lecture fund of \$10,000, the interest of which is applied to defraying the cost of lectures on subjects not directly appertaining to the educational course. The Crozer family recently gave \$50,000 to endow a professorship, as a memorial of their mother, the late Mrs. Sallie K. Crozer. Connected with the Seminary is "Pearl Hall," founded by William Bucknell, in memory of his late wife, Margaret, daughter of John P. Crozer, and the name it bears—Pearl—is the signification of Margaret in the Latin tongue. Mr. Bucknell's gift, including the sum expended in the structure and books, amounted to \$50,000. The building, a Greek cross, is of serpentine stone; the floor of the main apartment laid in tiles, and is admirably arranged for the purposes of the library, which comprises about ten thousand volumes, a large number being works of reference, but in the collection are many early printed and scarce books. In a few instances the only known copies of several theological treatises extant are to be found in this library.

The Seminary building is of brick stuccoed, two hundred feet in length, forty in width and three stories in height, with basement. From the rear of the building is an addition, forty feet wide and fifty feet in length, at right angles to the main structure. The





present faculty consist of Rev. Henry G. Weston, D. D., President and Professor of Preaching and Pastoral Duties; Rev. George R. Bliss, D. D., LL. D., Professor of Biblical Interpretation; Rev. John C. Long, D. D., Professor of Church History; Rev. Elias H. Johnson, D. D., Professor of Christian Theology; Rev. James M. Stiffler, D. D., Professor of New Testament Exegesis, and Rev. Barnard C. Taylor, A. M., Assistant Professor of Biblical Interpretation.





## THE PUSEY HOUSE AT UPLAND.

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### THE OLDEST BUILDING STANDING IN THE COMMON-WEALTH.

THE oldest building standing intact in the State of Pennsylvania is the Pusey house, at Upland, which is preserved by the Crozer family as a sacred relic connecting the olden times of the province with the active progressive present. The structure, which is on the north side of the mill race, to the west of the road leading to the bridge spanning Chester creek, faces to the south and is about thirty feet in length, fifteen feet in breadth, and one story in height, crowned with a hipped roof, which gives to it the appearance of being a story and a half building. The walls, which are noticeable in their thickness, are of stone and brick, while the floor is of broad solid oak planking. The brick part of the old wall was evidently put there to take the place of stones which became loose and fell out of position, a fact strongly supported by an inspection of the inner side, which shows no bricks at all. The bricks in the eastern gable were placed there, it is said, after Chester Mills had become the property of Samuel Skaw, when he repaired the structure. The idea which prevails among many of our people that bricks in old dwellings in this Borough were of English make, is entirely erroneous, for not two years after Penn's first coming, in a lease made by Robert Wade, of the Essex House, to Robert Goforth, dated March 12, 1684, part of the property leased is described as abutting on the old brick kiln, near Chester creek. In 1879, J. C. & W. G. Price, while having clay dug on the lot at the northeast corner of Concord Avenue and Sixth street, uncover-



ed the bottom of an old kiln, respecting which the oldest resident could give no information. The lease mentioned, however, effectually designates the locality where the ancient remains of former days was unearthed as the site of the old brick yard.

The house has two doors and two windows in the front, while a dormer window is in the roof, and the roof itself has been several times renewed. A dwarfed doorway gives admission to the room, with low ceilings and the heavy beams supporting the floor above, still disclosing the marks of the broad axe which, two centuries ago, hewed the felled timber into form, and to the left of the room is a step-ladder, enclosed in a rude gangway, giving access to the apartments overhead. There is the old wide-mouthed fire-place (now enclosed), before whose hearth—whereon the ruddy flames flared and flickered two centuries ago—the founder of a great Commonwealth and his trusty friend and agent, Pusey, sat discussing the prospects of their business enterprise, or laying plans for the future welfare of the colony. If it be correct that Caleb Pusey made the noted visit to the Indian town in 1688 (see page 25), when the Province was startled from its propriety by the rumor that the aborigines were about to begin hostilities and massacre the whites, then, indeed, it is true, that “Caleb Pusey, going out unarmed into the forest to meet a threatened attack of the savages, is a more heroic figure than blustering Miles Standish, girt with the sword he fought with in Flinders.” To the left of the fire-place, within easy reach, still remains the deep square hole in the wall which the early settlers frequently made in their dwellings, as a sort of tobacco pouch, so that the consolation which comes with smoke should be always close at hand and accessible to their guests and to themselves.

It is hardly necessary, at this day, to correct the impression conveyed by Richard Townsend, in “Proud’s History,” or the direct statement of Stephen Day in his “Historical Collections of Pennsylvania,” that Richard Townsend “erected the dwelling for the accommodation of his family while he was tending the first mill erected in the Province.” The first mill was not erected on Chester creek, but, nevertheless, it may not be inappropriate to tell the story of the old Chester Mills, and, so far as I can, correct the erroneous impression which has gone abroad as to the Pusey house.



Previous to the departure of William Penn from England, in 1682, he entered into a verbal co-partnership with Philip Ford, John Bellars, Daniel Worley, Daniel Quire, John Barker, Richard Townsend, John Bickley, Thomas Burberry and Caleb Pusey, all at that time in England, and it was agreed among them to erect one or more water mills, to the cost of which they were to contribute in proportionate shares, for the agreement among themselves partook of the nature of a stock company, and each party received the interest in the venture in proportion to the amount contributed. Caleb Pusey was appointed agent and manager of the "said joint concern." The land on which the house stands was never owned by Townsend, but was patented to Caleb Pusey, 4th mo. 7th, 1684. The tract on which the mill was erected was patented to Pusey, "for the use of the mill," 2d mo. 5th, 1690. Many of the partners in the enterprise never came to the Province. The mill itself, ready framed, was brought over in the "Welcome," and Penn, we are told by Hon. Joseph J. Lewis, in his sketches of Chester county, was present when the first dam was made. It is documentary evidence, in an old deed, dated December 19, 1705, now owned by the Crozer family, that in 1683, Caleb Pusey, "with the advice of the sd Proprietary and such others of the said partners as there were in the Province," erected a "corn mill on Chester creek, near his new dwelling house," which mill, with the dam belonging to it, were soon carried away by the flood. Caleb Pusey afterwards, by advice of Penn and "ye other partner that was here," (doubtless Richard Townsend) erected a little above where the first mill stood, another grist and saw mill upon part of the twenty acres patented for the use of the mill at the cost of the firm. The second dam was in turn swept away by flood, and he erected a third dam at the distance of a mile beyond where the others were located, and constructed a race to convey the water to the mill. The expenses attending these constant repairs were so great that the outlay far exceeded the earnings of the mill, and Pusey borrowed money from time to time from Robert Turner to pay for the improvements. The partners refusing, with the exception of Penn and Pusey—Richard Townsend had sold his interest to Pusey several years before—to pay their proportions of the costs, suit was brought by Turner for £390, 8s, 7d half-penny. Judgment was



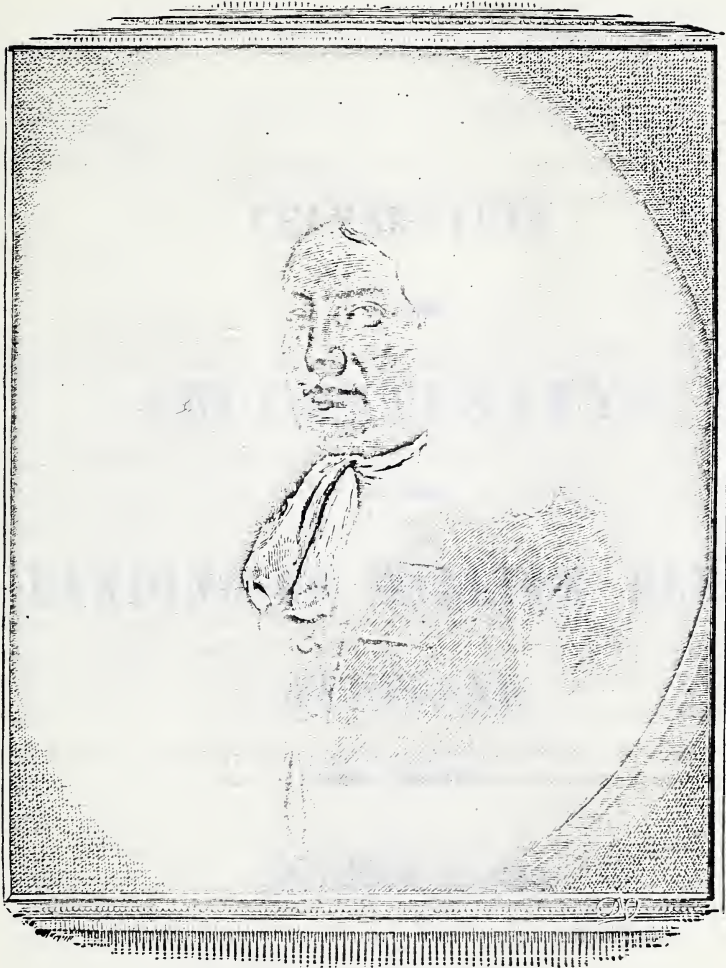


entered in his favor, June 14, 1692, and the Coroner, Jacob Simcock—Pusey was at the time Sheriff of the county and interested in the case—was required to sell the estate in payment of the judgment. The property was assessed at £550. It was offered at Sheriff's sale, but found no buyers, and on September 13, 1692, the Coroner sold the interest of the delinquent parties to Robert Turner at the appraisal, and the latter sold his interest to Samuel Carpenter, who, for thirteen years, until December 19, 1705, was a partner with Penn and Pusey, in the milling business. Doubtless when repairs were made to the mill, in 1699, the rude iron vane bearing the initials W. P., (William Penn,) S. C., (Samuel Carpenter,) C. P., (Caleb Pusey,) and the date, 1699, was placed on the building. When Richard Flower owned the property, the old vane surmounted the dwelling house of the owner, but on gusty nights turning in the wind it squeaked and groaned so noisily that it was taken down. In 1870, Reese W. Flower presented it to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and it now points the wind on that building, although so added to and gilded that those who remember it as it was in Upland would hardly recognize it now.

In 1705, Carpenter sold his interest to Pusey, and the property subsequently had several owners, while the interest of Penn seems to have become a charge on the land, which was recognized until the War of the Revolution extinguished the title of the "Chief Lords of the Fee." About 1745, the old mill having been almost destroyed by an accidental fire, a new stone mill was built by Joseph Pennell, the then owner of the property and the grandfather of John P. Crozer, who was a builder, worked on the structure, which stood, I think, until 1858, when it in turn was destroyed by an accidental fire. The dam breast was built in 1752, by Samuel Shaw while he was owner of the property.

Too much credit cannot be accorded to the Crozer family for the care they have taken in preserving this old relic—the Pusey house—from the ravages of time. Many years ago the building was used as a school house by Mrs. Warren Dixon, but at the present time it is inhabited by a colored family, rent free, on condition that they shall protect the premises from the vandalism of relic hunters.





WILLIAM PENN. AGE 52 YEARS.  
[From Portrait in National Museum, Philadelphia.]



CELEBRATION

*OF THE*

— BI-CENTENARY —

*OF THE*

LANDING OF WILLIAM PENN,

AT UPLAND,

(NOW CHESTER.)

OCTOBER 28, 1682.



## PRELIMINARY WORK OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

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THE idea of celebrating the Bi-Centennial Anniversary of the landing of William Penn, the Founder of this Commonwealth, had been for some time a subject of interest to its citizens, but it was not until the early spring of 1882, that it took definite shape. The actual time of the landing is somewhat in doubt. We know that the "good ship, Welcome, Robert Greenaway, Master," which brought Penn and his associates to this country, sighted the Capes of the Delaware, about the 24th of October, 1682. We know that Penn landed at New Castle on the 27th, and that he was there on the morning of the 28th and in Upland—now Chester—on the 29th. Whether he arrived here on the evening of the 28th, or the morning of the 29th is uncertain, the balance of evidence being slightly in favor of the latter. That he was here on the 29th of October, O. S., we are certain, for the letters, *fac similes* of which are given in this volume, were dated here on that day. The 29th of October,\* O. S., 1682, may, therefore, be fairly accepted as the actual anniversary of his landing at Upland, in the absence of more conclusive evidence, and the 8th of November, N. S., 1882, in fact completed the two hundredth year since the landing and should have been the day selected for the Celebration here.

As will be seen, however, Chester had no voice in this matter, the date being fixed by the State Bi-Centennial Association.

On April 4, 1882, C. W. Alexander, Secretary of the State Bi-Centennial Association, visited our city and conferred with Mayor James Barton, Jr., and a few citizens, and on June 12,

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\*In this opinion of Mr. Johnson's, Mr. Ashmead does not concur.





1882, a formal call was issued by a Committee, consisting of James Barton, Jr., Mayor; H. B. Black, President of Council; D. M. Johnson, Frank S. Baker, Isaiah H. Mirkil and Richard Miller, for a meeting of citizens to consider the part which Chester should take in the proposed celebration. The call was as follows:

*To the citizens of Chester and vicinity:*

The Bi-Centennial Association of Pennsylvania have fixed upon the week commencing October 22, 1882, for the general celebration of the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Commonwealth by William Penn, and have outlined a programme of exercises as follows:

Sunday, October 22, introductory religious services appropriate to the event throughout the State; Monday, October 23, formal opening of the ceremonies of the week and celebration at Chester; October 24, 25, 26, and 27, are set apart for processions, trades' displays, musical festivals, parades, &c., in the city of Philadelphia.

The Executive Committee of the said Association are looking to the people of Chester and vicinity to arrange and perfect plans for the suitable observance of the 23rd, to which the said committee will lend its co-operation.

The undersigned were constituted a committee by the Council of Chester to take this subject into consideration, and they, after deliberation, deem it most important first that a public meeting of citizens should be called for the purpose of devising the best means of carrying out the designs of the State Committee, so far as they relate to the celebration in this city. We, therefore, invite you to assemble for that purpose in the City Hall, on the 15th inst., at 7.30, P. M.

The following gentlemen have been invited and are expected to be present: Hon. John M. Broomall, Hon. Wm. Ward, Hon. Washington Townsend, Hon. Thomas J. Clayton, Hon. J. Smith Futhey, Robert E. Monaghan, Esq., Samuel A. Crozer, John Roach, Samuel Riddle, John B. Rhodes, Esq., Ex-Mayor Larkin, Ex-Mayor Forwood, Dr. Elwood Harvey and A. Lewis Smith, Esq. C. W. Alexander, Secretary, Alexander P. Colesbury, Manager, and Thomas M. Thompson, of the Bi-Centennial Committee of Philadelphia, will be present.

JAMES BARTON, JR., *Mayor.*

H. B. BLACK, *President of Council.*

D. M. JOHNSON,

FRANK S. BAKER,

ISAIAH H. MIRKIL,

RICHARD MILLER,

*Chester, June 5th, 1882.*

*Committee.*

On the evening of the 15th about a hundred of the prominent citizens of the place met at the City Hall, and on motion of H. B. Black, Mayor Barton was chosen Chairman, Messrs. J. L. Forwood, M. D., H. B. Black, R. P. Mercer, M. D., and William Appleby, Vice-Presidents, and J. Craig, Jr., William Shaler Johnson and Edmund Jones, Esq., Secretaries.



Speeches were then made by Alexander P. Colesbury, General Manager; Clifford P. McCalla, Corresponding Secretary and Thomas M. Thompson, Manager of the Civic Display, all of the State Association and by Ex-Mayor J. L. Forwood and others, and letters of regret from C. W. Alexander, of Philadelphia; John B. Roach, of Chester, and Hon. Washington Townsend and R. E. Monaghan, of West Chester, were read.

The following resolutions were then offered by D. M. Johnson, Esq., and unanimously adopted :

"RESOLVED, That this meeting deem it advisable that the two hundredth anniversary of the landing of William Penn in Chester, should be observed and celebrated with appropriate ceremonies, and that the proposed celebration shall take place on the 23d of October next.

"RESOLVED, That a Committee of persons be appointed by the Chairman of this meeting which Committee shall have full power to collect and disburse funds, and make all necessary arrangements for a becoming and general celebration of said anniversary, and that said Committee shall have power to add to its members, if found necessary."

The number of the Committee was left to the Mayor's discretion, and he was made Chairman for the purpose of calling the Committee together for organization.

On the 19th of June, the Mayor appointed the following gentlemen to serve on the General Committee under the above resolution:

Henry B. Black,	Henry Palmer,
Isaiah H. Mirkil,	Ex-Mayor John Larkin, Jr.,
David M. Johnson,	Ex-Mayor J. L. Forwood,
Richard Miller,	J. Newton Shanafelt,
Frank S. Baker,	William P. Ladamus,
	William B. Broomall.
Prof. Charles F. Foster,	John C. Price,
Samuel H. Seeds,	Daniel Robinson,
William Appleby,	J. Craig, Jr.,
Dr. Robert P. Mercer,	William Shaler Johnson,
	Edmund Jones.
Lewis D. Wheaton,	Charles Creamer,
	Col. Simon Litzenberg.
G. P. Dennis,	Edward W. DeSilver,
Orlando Harvey,	Edward Johnson,
John Sanville,	William McCallum,
John Wilde,	William H. Martin,
John A. Wallace,	John Spencer,



Oliver Troth,  
Henry Frysinger.

Thomas V. Cooper,  
Joseph Chadwick,  
George W. Whitlock,

John B. Roach,  
Amos Gartside,  
Henry Graham Ashmend,  
Robert Wetherill,  
Hon. Robert Chadwick,  
Benjamin F. Baker,  
Henry Abbott,  
William I. Leiper,  
Benjamin W. Blakeley,  
William H. Eves,

Charles Roberts,  
John Lilley,  
Joseph Deering,  
Henry B. Taylor,  
Frank W. Thomas,  
John J. Ledward,  
Robert Howarth,  
Oliver C. McClure,  
Col. William C. Gray,  
J. William Lewis,

John O. Deshong.

Col. Perry M. Washabaugh,

Lieut. Edward D. Sparks,  
Captain Charles E. Hyatt.

William J. Oglesby,

Thomas J. Ross.  
Prof. John R. Sweney.

John Fountain,  
James Buckley,  
William S. Sykes,

Joel Hollingsworth,  
Edward S. McKeever,  
Stephen L. Armour,

Mordecai Lewis.

Col. David F. Houston,  
Gasoway O. Yarnall,  
James Fields,  
William Worrell,  
W. Lane Verlinden,  
Thomas J. Osborne,  
George W. Beatty,  
Humphrey Y. Ash,  
Ephraim J. Ridgway,  
J. Howard Lewis,  
Chalkley Harvey,  
Edgar C. Lyons.

William E. Trainer,  
Benjamin F. Miller,  
D. Reese Esrey,  
Col. Samuel A. Dyer,  
John P. Crozer,  
Ward R. Bliss,  
George E. Darlington,  
Horace R. Manley,  
John B. Rhodes,  
Clarence Larkin,  
John H. Kerlin,  
Henry Riddle,

William Burnley.

At the same time a call was issued for a meeting of this Committee for the purpose of organization, and for such other business as might come before them, on Thursday evening, June 22. The Committee met on that evening, in City Hall. On motion of Orlando Harvey, Mayor Barton was unanimously elected Chairman and the following officers chosen: Vice Chairman; George E. Darlington; Recording Secretary, J. Craig, Jr.; Corresponding Secretary, H. G.



Ashmead; Treasurer, H. B. Black. At this meeting it was decided that fifteen members should constitute a quorum. A motion to appoint a Committee to take into consideration the best methods for raising funds and to name the necessary Sub-Committees for carrying out the details of the work subject to the consideration of the General Committee, was carried; and on motion of Dr. R. P. Mercer, the permanent officers of the General Committee were instructed to name a Committee of five to carry out the above resolution. The gentlemen named were Ex-Mayor Forwood, D. M. Johnson, Col. W. C. Gray, F. S. Baker and Edward S. McKeever, and the Committee adjourned to meet on Tuesday evening, June 29th.

At the meeting June 29th, these gentlemen made an exhaustive report. In it they gave an outline of the exercises proposed for the celebration and a list of Sub-Committees. As these Sub-Committees were somewhat changed, and in many cases members added, the list of those composing them is omitted here, and will be found at the close of this article. The persons first named on the several Sub-Committees were authorized to call them together, but their permanent organization was left to themselves.

From this time the work of preparation for the important event, went steadily on, the Sub-Committees working in unison with and under control of the General Committee, the latter holding meetings once a week.

The general feeling manifested became stronger as the object and scope of the celebration became known, and to the gentlemen forming the sub-divisions of the General Committee, as well as to the officers of that Committee, and to those citizens who aided with their means, the City of Chester is indebted for the success of the celebration. The newspapers, with commendable liberality, opened their columns to the advertisements of the several Committees without charge, and the civic societies and organizations were prompt in their response to the invitation to participate. The work of the General Committee closed, so far as preparation for the event was concerned, Thursday evening, October 19th, but that of the Sub-Committees ended only with the day. The meetings of the General and Sub-Committees, after the event were simply formal, and the business transacted was but the closing act of a well managed and well executed memorial drama.





Below is given a list of the officers of the General Committee and the officers and members of the Sub-Committees. As these, with the honorary members, make up the General Committee, a list of the latter would be superfluous:

#### OFFICERS OF GENERAL COMMITTEE.

Hon. James Barton, Jr., *Chairman*; George E. Darlington, *Vice Chairman*; J. Craig, Jr., *Recording Secretary*; H. G. Ashmead, *Corresponding Secretary*; H. B. Black, *Treasurer*; Col. W. C. Gray, *Chief Marshal*.

#### SUB-COMMITTEES—FINANCE.

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**TRADES DISPLAY.**

H. B. Taylor, *Chairman*, Chester. H. A. Eisenbise, *Secretary*, Chester. *Chester*, Robert Howarth, John Wilde, Joseph Deering, Nathan Larkin, Joseph McAlton, Joseph Messick, Charles Creamer, James F. Stewart, Samuel Oglesby.

**MILITARY.**

Col. W. C. Gray, *Chairman*, Chester. *Chester*, Col. P. M. Washabaugh, Capt. C. E. Hyatt, Lieut. Edward D. Sparks. *Media*, Capt. Jesse M. Baker.

**EDUCATIONAL.**

Prof. C. F. Foster, *Chairman*, Chester. Prof. George Gilbert, *Secretary*, Chester. *Chester*, Col. Theodore Hyatt, Samuel H. Seeds, John C. Price, Daniel Robinson. *Elwyn*, Dr. I. N. Kerlin. *Media*, Prof. S. C. Shortlidge. *Ridley*, Prof. A. B. Stewart.

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**HISTORICAL.**

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**FIREMEN'S DISPLAY.**

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**ORATORY, INVITATION AND RECEPTION.**

Orlando Harvey, *Chairman*, Chester. Frank G. Sweeney, *Secretary*, Chester. *Chester*, G. P. Denis, William Appleby, John O. Deshong, William B. Broomall, Col. W. C. Gray, Hon. J. L. Forwood, Hon. William Ward, H. B. Black, Dr. Ellwood Harvey. *Media*, Hon. Thomas V. Cooper. *Middletown*, E. C. Lyons.

**PENN LANDING.**

B. F. Baker, *Chairman*, Chester. Edward S. McKeever, *Secretary*, Chester. *Chester*, D. M. Johnson, Edmund Jones, Col. Simon Litzenberg, Capt. F. S. Baker, Hon. William Ward, Robert Anderson, Lorenzo Nugent. *Upper Chichester*, Job Green.



## FIRE WORKS.

William H. Martin, *Chairman*, Chester. *Chester*, Col. W. C. Gray, Charles Roberts, H. B. Black, Samuel Greenwood.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Amos Gartside, *Chairman*, Chester. *Chester*, William Appleby, Richard Miller, Capt. F. S. Baker, Col. Simon Litzenberg.

## HONORABLE MEMBERS OF GENERAL COMMITTEE

*Chester*, John B. Roach, L. D. Wheaton, Edmund Pennell, Spencer McIlvain, James Barton, Sr., Joseph Taylor, William V. Black, John Geltson, Thomas Moore, Benjamin Gartside, Hon. John Larkin, Jr., John Roach, Edward H. Engle, William Murphy, John Eves, Pennock Mercer. *North Chester*, Col. Samuel A. Dyer. *Media*, Hon. Edward Darlington. *Middletown*, Samuel Riddle, Richard S. Smith. *Ridley*, Jacob Worrall, James Eachus. *South Chester*, John J. Thurlow.

## SUBSCRIBERS TO THE FUND.

## CHESTER.

Thomas Appleby .....	\$10 00	Cash .....	16 50
William Appleby .....	10 00	H. B. Davis .....	5 00
Henry Abbott .....	10 00	J. Deny .....	1 00
Robert Anderson .....	5 00	A. O. Deshong .....	20 00
W. B. Broomall .....	10 00	J. O. De-hong .....	20 00
John Brooks .....	5 00	P. P. Derric son .....	5 00
G. W. Beatty .....	5 00	S. D. Danfield .....	5 00
A. Buchanan .....	1 00	S. A. Dyer .....	20 00
W. Bagshaw .....	3 00	H. L. Donaldson .....	3 00
J. M. Burke .....	2 00	Joseph Deering .....	2 00
Mrs. Booth .....	2 00	G. P. Denis .....	25 00
D. S. Bunting .....	10 00	J. L. Entwisle .....	5 00
T. C. Burke .....	1 00	Adam C. Eckfeldt .....	10 00
Baker & Culbert .....	5 00	William H. Eves .....	10 00
John M. Broom II .....	2 00	J. J. Evans .....	2 00
J. B. Bergmann .....	1 00	William P. Eyre .....	10 00
George M. Booth .....	5 00	Eisenbise & Bro .....	5 00
John M. Booth .....	1 00	W. B. Edwards .....	5 00
William Beaver .....	2 00	C. Emlen .....	2 00
B. F. Baker .....	5 00	T. D. Finegan .....	5 00
H. B. Black .....	10 00	Samuel Greenwood .....	20 00
William V. Black .....	10 00	Benjamin Gartside & Sons .....	50 00
A. Blakeley & Son .....	25 00	Henry Goff .....	5 00
F. S. Baker .....	5 00	J. Gartside .....	10 00
J. Brewster .....	2 00	William Gregg .....	25
I. P. Branin .....	5 00	George Gilbert .....	3 00
Bowers & Son .....	10 00	John Genthner .....	5 00
Samuel Black .....	1 00	John Gardner .....	2 00
Charles Cheetham .....	5 00	G. Gerstley .....	1 00
R. Chadwick .....	10 00	John Goff .....	5 00
S. J. Cochran .....	5 00	John P. Gartside .....	5 00
Thomas Coulter .....	2 00	Orlando Harvey .....	5 00
J. E. Cardwell .....	1 00	S. P. Howard .....	2 00
J. Cheetham .....	2 50	Hugh Hatton .....	5 00
James Culbert .....	2 00	Mrs. Hardy .....	2 00
E. G. Conwell .....	1 00	W. Hunter, Jr .....	1 00
M. Connolly .....	1 00	D. G. Hendricks .....	1 00
J. P. Clayton .....	5 00	Headley & Mahon .....	2 00



John Hamilton .....	10 00	C. D. Pennell.....	10 00
Charles E. Hyatt.....	10 00	D. P. Paiste.....	1 00
John B. Hannum.....	2 00	Samuel Powell.....	5 00
Irving & Leiper.....	25 00	Ann Pike.....	1 00
Edmund Jones.....	5 00	Dr. Parsons.....	3 00
Dr. Johnson.....	5 00	S. J. Rose & Son.....	5 00
L. G. James.....	5 00	R. E. Ross.....	5 00
J. R. Johnson.....	2 00	Rorer & Mingin.....	2 00
D. M. Johnson.....	5 00	C. E. Rodgers.....	1 00
F. Kroneberger.....	2 00	Charles Roberts.....	5 00
Dr. Kish.....	5 00	J. W. Rawcliffe.....	1 00
Edward Kelly.....	2 00	J. Rodgers.....	5 00
Mrs. Kershaw.....	1 00	Shaw, E. rey & Co.....	50 00
Paul Klotz.....	2 00	J. H. Stroud & Co.....	10 00
William Kurer.....	2 00	E. D. Sparks.....	10 00
J. C. Kepner.....	1 00	K. Simon.....	1 00
Lilley & Sons.....	10 00	J. Stewart.....	1 00
L. I. Lukens & Co.....	5 00	J. M. Stever.....	2 00
Samuel Lyons.....	2 00	Dr. Samuel Starr.....	2 00
J. William Lewis.....	20 00	John Stewart.....	5 00
J. H. Ladomus.....	1 00	J. Stephens.....	5 00
Thomas Lytle.....	5 00	R. L. Thomas.....	1 00
J. A. Ladomu.....	1 00	H. B. Taylor.....	5 00
John Lee.....	1 00	T. Turner.....	1 00
J. Larkin, Jr.....	5 00	Jonathan Taylor.....	5 00
H. G. Mason.....	5 00	R. E. Turner.....	2 00
W. H. Martin.....	3 75	F. C. Torpey.....	1 00
Rev. Thomas McCauley.....	5 00	Dr. Ulrich.....	10 00
Joseph Messick.....	5 00	A. Uhlenbrock.....	5 00
Benjamin Morris.....	2 00	D. M. Ulrich.....	2 00
F. K. McCollum.....	5 00	William H. Williams.....	5 00
Mrs. Morrison.....	5 00	G. B. Wilson.....	10 00
Morton & Black.....	10 00	C. Willis.....	2 00
Richard Miller.....	5 00	E. S. Worrell.....	10 00
Thomas Mirkil.....	5 00	J. Whitehead.....	5 00
Samuel McIlvain.....	5 00	H. N. Weidner.....	2 00
D. McCurdy.....	5 00	J. E. Woodbridge.....	5 00
McCall & Yarnall.....	5 00	C. W. Wight.....	1 00
William McClure.....	1 00	John Wilde.....	2 00
N. P. Moyer.....	1 00	George W. Wood.....	1 00
Not to know.....	10 00	Robert Wetherill & Co.....	20 00
Lorenzo Nugent.....	1 00	William Wilson.....	1 00
William J. Oglesby.....	5 00		
M. Ocheltree.....	3 00		
		Total—Chester.....	\$950 00

SOUTH CHESTER.

John Benton.....	\$2 00	F. Kohle.....	1 00
E. T. Byrne.....	1 00	Law & Dereny.....	20 00
Z. T. Bartleson.....	1 00	William Lewis.....	5 00
Michael Burk.....	1 00	J. Lamplugh.....	1 00
Chester Oil Works.....	25 00	William H. Major.....	5 00
T. J. Clayton.....	10 00	C. G. Neal.....	1 00
Chester Rolling Mill's.....	25 00	Herbert Norton.....	1 00
Samuel Cotton.....	3 00	Mrs. O'Donnell.....	1 00
P. Conarty.....	1 00	Purker & Matlack.....	1 00
C. A. Dubhorn.....	1 00	H. J. Riley.....	5 00
T. Doyle.....	1 00	J. J. Ryan.....	1 00
S. M. Felton.....	25 00	John Roberts.....	1 00
Edward Ferry.....	5 00	H. J. Reiley.....	1 00
Scott Grace.....	1 00	P. Reiley.....	1 00
William Grannan.....	1 00	W. G. Sears.....	1 00
D. F. Houston.....	10 00	Samuel P. Stevenson.....	1 00
William J. Hewes.....	1 00	George Trayner.....	1 00
William Hawley.....	1 00	L. A. Tucker.....	1 00
Samuel Hewes.....	1 00	L. Zebley.....	1 00
Edward Harkins.....	1 00		
M. Knight.....	1 00		
		Total—South Chester.....	\$168 00

RADNOR.

Arthur & Warner.....	\$10 00	D. C. Abrahams.....	5 00
L. W. Adams.....	5 00	Martha Brown.....	15 00





R. Beaumont .....	2 00	A. Montgomery .....	10 00
Lewis T. Brooke .....	5 00	T. H. Morris .....	5 00
George W. Childs .....	25 00	F. W. Morris .....	5 00
John Conner .....	5 00	W. W. Montgomery .....	5 00
T. T. Crosley .....	2 00	H. Pleasants, Jr. ....	5 00
Joseph H. Childs .....	2 00	Philip P. Place .....	10 00
Cash .....	5 00	Charles Pugh .....	1 00
Maskel Ewing .....	10 00	Peter Pechin .....	2 00
James G. Francis .....	5 00	James Rawle .....	15 00
F. Fennimore .....	5 00	Theodore D. Rand .....	5 00
Lewis Garrett .....	5 00	W. H. Ramsey .....	5 00
Jesse Gyger .....	5 00	T. F. Ramsey .....	2 00
Dr. C. W. Horner .....	10 00	John Sacker .....	5 00
George Hunter .....	5 00	W. G. Thomas .....	20 00
Thomas B. Jones .....	2 00	J. K. Valentine .....	10 00
Anderson Kirk .....	5 00	W. W. Whiting .....	5 00
Benjamin Kirk .....	2 00		
Tryon Lewis .....	5 00	Total—Radnor .....	\$250 00

## CONCORD.

M. Buckley .....	25	S. A. McCall .....	50
S. E. Buckley .....	50	N. Y. Scott .....	2 00
E. Hannum .....	1 00	J. R. Scot .....	1 00
R. M. Harvey .....	1 00	Jesse Scott .....	50
John Hart .....	50	W. P. Yarnall .....	1 00
W. B. Hannum .....	25		
Anna Hannum .....	25	Total—Concord .....	\$8 75

## ASTON.

A. C. England .....	\$1 00	Sharpless & Jenkins .....	3 00
J. B. Rhodes .....	5 00	Ellwood Tyson .....	3 00
Samuel Rhodes .....	10 50		
C. B. Rhodes .....	2 00	Total—Aston .....	\$25 00
Hugh Ray .....	50		

## LOWER CHICHESTER.

C. Larkin .....	\$5 00	D. Trainer & Son .....	5 00
Total—Lower Chichester .....			\$10 00

## MEDIA.

J. M. Broomall, Jr. ....	\$10 00	B. N. Lehman .....	1 00
Cash .....	14 00		
		Total—Media .....	\$25 00

## NEWTOWN.

Jesse Brooks .....	\$3 00	William Rhodes .....	5 00
Total—Newtown .....			\$8 00

## MARPLE.

Total—Marple .....			\$25 00
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## RIDLEY.

Total—Ridley .....			\$40 00
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## UPLAND.

S. A. Crozer .....	\$50 00	J. P. Crozer .....	50 00
Total—Upland .....			\$100 00



ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Pennsylvania Railroad Company	\$500 00	Prof. C. F. Foster	10 00
Phila., Wil. & Balt. Railroad Co.	250 00	Total	\$2,569 75
Eddystone Manufacturing Co.	50 00	Appropriated by city of Chester	100 00
William Simpson & Son	50 00		
John Roach & Son	100 00		
			<u>\$2,969 75</u>

The Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company kindly discontinued the running of their freight trains on the Front Street Branch on the day of the Celebration, and planked over their bridge over Chester creek, at Front street, for the accommodation of the people who desired to cross at that point, a courtesy which was thoroughly appreciated.

Donations as follows were received by the Committee and thankfully acknowledged. These may be regarded also as subscriptions for the general purpose—

Evening News, advertising	\$72 01	School Board, music stand	\$15 00
Times and Gazette, "	32 45	Headley & Mahon, reduction	5 13
Advocate, "	29 32	Col. W. C. Gray, badges	3 50
Democrat, "	26 80	Volkhart Bros.	70
Republican, "	25 00	Total	\$261 41
Record, "	16 50		
American, "	15 00		
Total	<u>\$237 08</u>		





## FRIENDS AND THE BI-CENTENNIAL.

[Contributed by Sarah B. Flitcraft.]

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*First day, 10th mo., 22d, 1882.*

**A**T the close of a meeting for worship of the Religious Society of Friends, on First day, 10th mo. 1st, 1882, at their Meeting House, on Market Street, Chester, Pennsylvania, they conferred together in reference to holding a Bi-Centennial in commemoration of the landing of William Penn at this place. After a full expression and interchange of sentiment all agreed it would be proper and appropriate for Friends to have such an occasion, wherein they could hold forth to the community, the virtues and practical life of this distinguished man, who founded the Colony of Pennsylvania upon a just and equitable basis, and conducted it on the principles of Peace as long as he and his friends had the management and control of the government. The time and place agreed upon was 10th mo. 22d, at 2.30, P. M., in their Meeting House, on Market street, being the First day prior to the State Bi-Centennial. The following committee was appointed to make arrangements for the proposed meeting: Sarah B. Flitcraft, Thomas J. Houston, Elias H. West, Rachel P. Leys, Arabella M. Miller, Sallie R. Milner, Arabella Hinkson, Allen Flitcraft, Isaac T. Lewis, Kate D. West, Jennie S. Lamborn, George M. Booth, Alfred Lamborn, Susanna S. Houston and Arthur H. Middleton.

Long before the appointed time the Meeting House was filled to overflowing, hundreds being unable to gain admission. The exercises were interesting throughout and were conducted in a plain unostentatious way.

JOHN M. BROOMALL, of Media, Pa., opened the meeting with a brief address, in which he eulogized William Penn as a sound practical statesman and a representative Friend. He spoke of the event



we commemorate as one of the highest interest, being the only instance in which the principles of Christianity, as taught in the Sermon on the Mount, were ever applied to the founding of a State or Nation. Those principles were then put forth upon their trial as rules of human conduct. If they failed, Christianity is a failure; but they did not fail. A State was founded among a barbarous people, in which the sword was expressly and openly repudiated, and kindness, forbearance and love, made the corner-stones of the structure in its stead. For seventy years, and as long as those principles were acted upon, the State enjoyed profound peace, without armies, forts or arsenals. It is to the credit of both races, that for forty years no blood on either side was shed by the hand of the other, and it is to the credit of the ruder race that the first violation of the sanctity of life across the line of the races, was committed by a white man. Penn's colony without the sword enjoyed a tranquility far beyond that of any other colony with it. In the face of this success of the first and only experiment, it will not do to call Christianity a failure in the founding of a State. In fact the law of kindness has succeeded wherever it has been tried; the inebriate, the lunatic, the imbecile, the waifs and strays of humanity, all yield to its power. It is well known that vengeance and cruelty are failures in the suppression of crime; courts and prisons are schools for criminals and will remain so until we learn to treat the criminal as a brother and minister to his "mind diseased," in the spirit of kindness. Society is largely responsible for his condition, and it owes itself, as well as him, the duty of taking care of him for his good and its safety.

He spoke of war in strong and earnest language. It is the submission of the cause of quarrel to the arbitrary will of the stronger party. There is no legal limit to the power of the conqueror; by the laws of war, prisoners may be enslaved and sold, or killed and eaten at the pleasure of the victor, and no law of war is violated. The business of war is to burn, to ravage, to destroy, to kill; and the fact that the customs of modern belligerents are less bad than this, is proof that the world is outgrowing some of its wickedness, and is approaching, though still a great way off, the standard set up by the Divine Master. He spoke of national arbitrament as a means of





avoiding war, and gave instances of its adoption and success. Individual disputes were once settled by the sword: now nearly all of them are settled by submission to the judgment of disinterested men. If nations would practice the rule they enforce on their subjects and citizens, would set the example instead of prescribing the law they refuse to obey themselves, armies would soon be classed among the things that were, the sword would "be beaten into a ploughshare and the spear into a pruning hook."

The following letter and poem from John G. Whittier were then read by ELLA HOOD, of West Chester:

OAK KNOLL, DANVERS, MASS., 10th mo., 7th, 1882.

To SARAH B. FLITCRAFT, Chester, Pa.

*My Dear Friend*—It is well that Friends should commemorate the landing of the Founder of Pennsylvania, and the great apostle of their faith, on the pleasant shores of Chester two centuries ago. The event so picturesque in its surroundings and circumstances, so important in its results and influence, is a subject worthy of the poet's pen or the painter's pencil, I should be glad if it were possible for me to put into fitting metrical form the thoughts and emotions which it awakens. But the burden of years begins to rest heavily upon me and I shrink from the effort of handling such a theme. In spite of the endeavor of a historian more regardful of the display of his rhetoric and sarcasm than of historical accuracy and justice, the memory of William Penn is secure in its grand outlines. He stands, and will forever stand, with the sages, statesmen and philanthropists, of whom the world of their day was not worthy. He lived and thought centuries in advance of his contemporaries; and, slowly but surely, the generations since have been approaching the moral and political standard which he set up on the shores of the Delaware.

Looking over some old papers recently, I found some verses written by me when a boy of sixteen—nearly sixty years ago. Of course the circumstances under which they were penned, alone entitle them to notice, but I venture to send them, as the only response to thy request which I can make.

I am truly thy friend,

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

**WILLIAM PENN.**

The tyrant on his gilded throne,  
The warrior in his battle dress,  
The holier triumph ne'er have known  
Of justice and of righteousness.

Founder of Pennsylvania! Thou  
Didst feel it, when thy words of peace  
Smoothed the stern chieftain's swarthy brow,  
And bade the dreadful war-dance cease.

On Schuylkill's banks no fortress frowned,  
The peaceful cot alone was there:  
No beacon fires the hilltops crowned,  
No death shot swept the Delaware.

In manners meek, in precepts mild,  
Thou and thy friends serenely taught  
The savage huntsman, fierce and wild,  
To raise to Heaven his erring thought.

How all unlike the bloody band  
That unrelenting Cortez led  
To princely Montezuma's land,  
And ruin 'round his pathway shed.



With hearts that knew not how to spare,  
Disdaining milder means to try,  
The crimson sword alone was there,  
The Indian's choice to yield or die!

But thou, meek Pennsylvanian sire,  
Unarmed, alone, from terror free,  
Taught by the heathen council fire  
The lessons of Christianity.

Founder of Pennsylvania's State!  
Not on the blood-wet rolls of fame,  
But with the wise, the good, the great,  
The world shall place thy sainted name!

SARAH L. OBERHOLTZER, of Cambria, Pa., then read the following original poem:

**A BI-CENTENNIAL POEM.**

The broad and placid Delaware glides on its outward way  
To meet the vessels that anon come sailing up the Bay.  
Two hundred years ago, the same, its silvery ripples met  
The good ship "Welcome" and the Friends whose footsteps halo yet  
Their landing place. The Autumn wood, though nearer then and dense,  
Waved with its banners, bright as now, salute of deference.  
Calm Nature's pulse beats ever on the same measure true;  
'Tis only we who come and go, meet, love and bid adieu.  
Favored are we, whose ancestors paused here with William Penn,  
To see the soft October light fall on the place as when  
They from the vessel reached the shore and thanked the living Lord  
That He unto the friends of peace such haven did accord.  
I see them now, through fancy's mist, upon the river's breast  
Lower their sails, and near the land with relief manifest.  
The mute thanksgiving of their souls I seem almost to feel  
As land is reached and on the sward they press possession's seal.  
It was then Chester, christened fair, assumed her English name  
At Penn's desire, when Pearson said he from that city came;  
And peace, transplanted, grew apace; philanthropy bloomed free;  
Unfolding and expanding fast within the Colony.  
The Friends in Pennsylvania, had right of thought and speech:  
No poison bars their spirits tried, but conscience wrought for each.  
They founded homes with altars wide wherein the inward light  
Burned as love's incense, and illumed privation's darkest night;  
They founded temples plain of prayer, where words were sometimes given  
To lead the pilgrims meeting there closer to Christ and Heaven;  
They blessed the state which blessed again the stranger in its turn;  
They pushed the forest from the shore and bade the corn sojourn.  
Early, 'neath Shackamaxon's elm of shadows soft and brown  
Good William Penn the fragrant piece of olive branch laid down.  
The Indian Chiefs inhaled its breath and each with smiling face,  
Acknowledged friendship's covenant for the Algonquin race.  
The treaty, perfect in its bonds and wise in every clause,  
Was more effectually kept than any modern laws.  
The Algonquins loved William Penn and all his Colony;  
Their better natures he unlocked with his great kindness key.  
For love is best and peace is safe, whate'er we wish to gain,  
And balm is better cure for ill, forevermore than pain.



His "Golden Rule" they understood, through intellectual night,  
 And kept the friendly promises close as a sacred right.  
 Penn planned the city of his love, a "country town and green,"  
 Where the glad Schuylkill waters with the Delaware's convene.  
 He left the garden plots, the squares, which rest our eyes to-day  
 As we walk down the pavements red of Philadelphia.  
 Dear City! she, with pageantry and pardonable pride,  
 Now celebrates her Patron's care through a vast human tide.  
 The plain, the wise, the Christian man would scarcely know his own  
 If he could see his fair green towns their limits long outgrown;  
 His broad 'Sylvania's forests wide hemmed in by well tilled fields  
 To playtime patches, which no game from the late sportsman shields;  
 His land abloom with villages; his rivers glad and rills  
 Low voiced, their merriment all gone to quench the thirst of mills;  
 His people sown, as by the wind, about the broad domain,  
 Not always marked by cut of coat yet of religion plain;  
 His mountains broken in their height, tunneled for ore or trade;  
 And, far beneath the surface line, the thud of miners' spade.  
 The coal, the iron, the oil and more, earth's jewels hidden then,  
 Are burnished now and beautiful with light and warmth to men.  
 Could the great Founder of our State, whose memory we revere,  
 Have foreseen these developments the day he landed here?  
 His thanks to kindly Providence, that sailing perils o'er,  
 He and his fellow pilgrims were safe upon the shore.  
 Had been e'en greater than they were, albeit they were great,  
 For in the Union Arch I ween there is no richer State.  
 And we, whose fathers came with Penn, take voice for them to-day,  
 Feeling their thoughts within us live though they have passed away;  
 That thanks we give and prayers we breathe are supplement to their's.  
 Although two hundred years have slept safe in their silent lairs.  
 The years must sleep as Winters come, and so it seems with men,  
 We lose them in the snows of time to meet in Heaven again.  
 Our gratitude for blessings great we thread on passing air  
 Dear Lord of hosts! dear Lord of love, our thanks are every where!  
 We feel Thy watchfulness and care, Thy mercy when we err,  
 Thy omnipresence, the rewards Thou doth administer.  
 Our ancestors were safe with Thee upon the ocean wide  
 Before the steamships plowed the main or wrestled with the tide.  
 Our love for Thee, our pride in them, we blend together here  
 And thank Thee we were spared to see this Bi-Centennial year.  
 O! may our State grow worthier still of vast and full increase,  
 'Till, all wrong thrown aside, she wears the rose of righteous peace!

SAMUEL J. LEVICK, of Philadelphia, then addressed the audience as follows:

*Friends and Citizens of Chester:*

It is very meet that here in this Meeting House of the Religious Society of Friends, should be commemorated the ceremonies attendant upon the arrival of William Penn and his friends in North America, for it is reasonable to suppose that here they first met, publicly, together to worship Almighty God and reverently to acknowledge thanks to Him, for their safe arrival in the "Land of Promise"



and their escape from the pestilence that "walketh in darkness," and the dangers of storm and tempest.

It is well for us to have these occasions. They are not new in the world's history. The Israelites commemorated by Holy Feasts their Passover and their exodus from the "Land of Bondage." And shall not we, the descendants of an equally worthy race, have our holy days and feasts commemorative of the Lord's doings for us; especially in moving our Fathers to come to this goodly land, and bequeathing it to us, for an inheritance—especially as it marks an important era in the world's history, the planting of a colony on the shores of the New World, second in point of time, and that only a few years subsequent to the first settlement at Burlington, N. J., in the year 1676—wherein were established principles and forms of government, which were new and untried, not only of a civil, but of a religious character, and which in their several particulars are acknowledged, and under which, not only the two millions of people who reside in our own State, but the fifty millions that inhabit the United States of North America, live in the peaceful enjoyment of, and now have the opportunity of enjoying Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness, with none to make them afraid.

These sturdy pioneers and men of peace with that eminent philanthropic lawgiver and Christian minister at their head, having failed to obtain in their native land a hearing and recognition of the principles that they believed themselves called to present to the world, and having suffered numerous persecutions and cruelties imposed on them and looking to the benefits of their posterity, in the inspiration that pressed itself upon them, were willing to leave their homes—many of them reared in affluence—and friends, and all that was dear by ties of kindred, to begin life anew on the shores of the New World, even though inhabited by the wild Indians of the forest, and there to establish a government, subdue the wilderness and to present the religion of their Lord and Master in such a form and under such surroundings as was denied to them in the land of their Fathers.

Before alluding to the landing of William Penn and his friends on the shores of the Delaware, it may not be uninteresting to mention some of the early events connected with the discovery and settlements along the shores of this historic river. In doing so I must needs present much that has been collated from the writings of the past.

The supposed discoverer of the Delaware was Lord De La Warr, from whom the name is derived. This right of discovery, however, was resisted by the Dutch, who called it the "South" river, and made early settlements on its shores. At the same time the Swedes, (as far back as 1651,) made settlements also, and for many years exercised their authority along its banks, as well as the Schuylkill, having erected forts and carried on quite an extensive trade with





the Indians. The Governor was named Printz, who erected a fort on Tincum Island, near the mouth of the Schuylkill and we are told that "Printz Hall," on Tincum Island was, at that time, the "Capitol" of this noble principality. Beside the fort, New Gottenberg, on that island, and another not far off Elsingborg, at the mouth of Salem creek, and still another, Fort Christiana, were the strongholds, whereby the Swedish Governor overawed the natives of the country and kept out intruders.

The Dutch, however, never forgot their claims by right of prior discovery to the "South" river, and the beautiful region watered by its many affluents. "Hudde," from his fort a mile below Gloucester Point, could watch the growth and progress of the Swedes, and object to their occupation of territory belonging to them.

The rivalry and jealousy between the Dutch and Swedes for possession of this fruitful country, was only held within bounds by fear of the English, and it was agreed between Stuyvesant, the Dutch Governor, on the Hudson, and Printz, the Swedish Governor, on the Delaware, that they should not engage in hostilities, but act as friends and allies. This condition of things did not last long, for a short time after a Swedish Ship of War, sailed up the Delaware and demanded the surrender of the Dutch fort. The Commander said: "What can I do? There is no powder."

Again, the Dutch hearing of what had taken place, the Governor—Stuyvesant—sent a fleet of seven vessels from New Amsterdam, (now New York) with six or seven hundred men, who attacked the Swedish fort at Christiana, at the mouth of the Brandywine. A siege was commenced which lasted twelve days. But little fighting was done. Only a few shots were exchanged, the time being occupied in making negotiations—(much to their credit). The Dutch prevailed. Articles of capitulation were signed, all in the interest of the Dutch. "This was the end of Swedish rule in America." Many of the Swedes remained along the banks of the Delaware and did much to develop, by their industry and thrift, the best resources of that fertile region. The new possessors, the Dutch, made vigorous efforts to colonize the country, and several expeditions were made, but were prevented by loss of ships, sickness, etc., and thus their sanguine anticipations of planting colonies on the South river were never fulfilled. It would appear that this fertile region was to be the home of Englishmen, and a colony was to be planted to present such thoughts and views of government, as would in their development, lay the foundation for rearing the grandest, most humane and enlightened system of government, that is known in the world's history.

We now turn to the events which are directly connected with the subject of my address, the landing of William Penn.

The causes that led to the planting of this Colony grew out of one of the most interesting periods of English history. The effort of Charles I. to make secure the Crown, by an assumption of power



which not even the pride of Henry VIII. had claimed, had ended in failure. England was comparatively at peace, but violence and strife, contention and sedition marked this peculiar epoch. Religious fanaticism was one of the features of this period. The struggles of the Cavaliers and the Roundheads, aroused feelings which were personal and bitter. "Families were divided among themselves, and every man was in arms against his neighbor."

Thus this struggling, surging tide of thought on religious subjects, went on for years. The Englishman of that day, [1650] free from political tyranny from *within*, would not brook even the semblance of interference in religious matters from without. But in the fierce controversies of Englishmen with each other, liberty of conscience meant to the zealous theologian of *that* day, when all men claimed to be theologians, only, the rights of all other men, to yield *their own opinions* and agree with him.

"It was soon observed that the sincere bigotry of the Roman Catholics and the proud intolerance of the English Churchmen, had only given place to a fervent, but narrow piety, which like them, would brook no opposition, mistook differences of opinion for hostility, and watched all other creeds with a jealous and unchristian eye. Forgetful of the truth that all cannot think alike: mixing essentials with non-essentials in blind confusion, and armed with the cant and loose learning of the day, men went forth to controversy as the Knights errant of an earlier and more chivalric, but not more zealous age, went forth to battle. Each sect became a political party and every party a political sect. Each, in its turn, according to its power, persecuted the other, and all united to persecute the Quakers."

It was in this age and stage of English history that William Penn was born and educated, for he was an educated man, his position and his father's wealth gave him the opportunity of storing his mind with knowledge, such as the schools of that day afforded. It is scarcely necessary for me to occupy your time in dwelling on the ancestry of William Penn, as historians have placed it on record. But I would remark that he was the son of Admiral Sir William Penn, a distinguished naval officer of Great Britain. A family that had preserved an honorable station and record for fourteen generations. His son, of whom we are speaking, was born October 14, 1644, of a pious and high minded mother. It was to her early training and thoughtful religious care, that Penn owed that element of character which marked his after life.

It would appear from the records that it was near the thirty-eighth anniversary of his birth, that Penn first landed on our shores, in the very meridian of his life, with a heart and mind cultivated, chastened and fitted to perform the great work of building a Commonwealth and be the Law Giver, not only of his own colony, but in his wisdom, framing a code of laws founded on such enlarged views of justice, equity and truth, that they became the source from



whence were taken, nearly a century afterwards, the leading principles that have become the foundation on which this Nation has built her temple of Liberty, Equality and Justice.

Penn inherited from his father a claim against the Crown for arrears of pay and for various loans to the Admiralty, amounting in 1681 to £16,000 sterling. Penn proposed to the Government to liquidate this debt by a grant of land to him in America. This was strongly opposed by the Privy Council, but the Duke of York favored the petition, and Penn, who was skilled in the methods of Courts, carefully waited, still pressing his claim, till the King, desirous of ridding himself of so great a debt, with an empty treasury, thought favorably of transferring unto him lands in the western wilderness in liquidation of the debt. The Lords' Committee on Colonies and the Board of Trade, were quite contemptuous over the idea of establishing over Indians and amidst foreign rivals, a sect of non-resistants. Penn ultimately prevailed and a charter, with specifications and boundaries, was signed March 4, 1681. In consideration of two beaver skins annually and a fifth part of all the gold and silver that might be mined, a territory of forty thousand square miles was awarded to him by the King, who gave the name of Pennsylvania to the new grant, in honor of Sir William Penn. "Penn desired it should be called New Wales, as his family originated in that country, and used every effort to have it changed, but the King was inexorable and said, "I am God-father to the territory and will bestow a name."

Shortly after Penn secured his title from the King, he made deeds to many of his friends and those desiring to emigrate to the new colony, and some of them arrived as early as 1681. Three vessels came over in that year. It had always been his object to live in his Province and manage his affairs. When the ship in which he was to embark was nearly ready, he requested an audience with the King. Said King Charles, "It will not be long before I hear that you have gone into the savages' war kettle. What is to prevent it?" "Their own *inward light*," said Penn. "Moreover, as I intend equitably to buy their lands, I shall not be molested." "Buy their lands! Why? Is not the whole land mine?" "No, Your Majesty. We have no right to their land; they are the original occupants of the soil." "What! have I not the right of discovery?" "Well just suppose that a canoe full of savages should by some accident discover Great Britain, would you vacate or sell?" The King was astonished at the retort and no less at the policy which soon bore such durable fruit.

After his visit to the King, and a day passed with his family in devout exercises and domestic converse, on September 1st, 1682, he set sail in the ship "Welcome," with a hundred passengers, nearly all of whom were Friends from his own county, Sussex. After an unpropitious voyage, they landed on the banks of the Del-



aware, just Two Hundred years ago. The Dutch and Swedes gave the heartiest welcome to the new Governor. His first act was to naturalize all these inhabitants of the Province. They were duly summoned to the Court House, and he addressed them on the true nature and functions of government. The first session lasted four days. He adopted the rule among the speakers (perhaps it would be well if some legislatures would adopt the same) that none speak but once before the question is put, nor after but once. Penn presided. No four days were ever more harmoniously spent in laying the foundations of society.

Having thus secured proprietary jurisdiction he issued a liberal advertisement of the inducements for emigration :

"He declared among other things that he wished to establish a just and righteous government in his Province, that others might take example by it. That there was not room enough in England for such a holy experiment. Government is a part of religion itself. A thing sacred in its institution and end. Any government is free to the people under it, whatever be the frame where the law rules and the *people* are a *party* to those laws." Governments depend upon men, *not* men upon governments.

His new code recognized liberty of conscience. All persons acknowledging the One Eternal God, living peaceably and justly were not to be molested or prejudiced in matters of faith and worship. He went further than this. He added that "nobody shall be compelled at any time to frequent or maintain any religious worship, place or ministry whatsoever. Only murder and treason were to be punished with death." That, at least, was insisted on by Chief Justice North. But during the administration and life of Penn, no gallows was erected in his Province. He said that prisons should be schools of reformation and education, that litigation ought to give way to some regular appointed arbitration. That an oath was a superfluity. So also were cock-pits, bull bating, card playing, theatres and drunkenness. Lying was punishable as a crime. This was striking at the root of the matter for all nations from the earliest time have acknowledged that "a lie is the parent of a horde of vices." Trial by jury was to be established and in all cases which involved an Indian, the jury must be composed of six whites and six Indians, and no planter was to take the law in his own hands, though he felt aggrieved by an Indian, but apply to a magistrate and he was to confer with the Indian's chief. The person of the Indian was declared sacred.

Such was the man and such were the characters of the Founder of our State.

Permit me to close my remarks by quoting a portion of the eloquent address delivered by the eminent Deponceau at the 140th anniversary of the landing of William Penn at Philadelphia, at a meeting called to organize a society to commemorate the landing





of William Penn, held at the old house of Penn in "Letitia Court," as it was then called.

He said: "We feel his spirit in the atmosphere we breathe: we seek in every nook and corner of it for some trace of the illustrious man; we see, in imagination, the spot where he used to sit, while dictating laws to a virtuous and happy people; we have a right to fancy we are sitting in the same place where he used to take his frugal repast. If the souls of the blest can look down from Heaven on the spots of this earth that were once dear to them, this meeting must be a pleasing spectacle to our sainted patriarch.

"A beneficent Providence permits, from time to time, the appearance on earth of one of those privileged mortals whose mind's being infused with a more than ordinary portion of celestial fire, affords the strongest proof of the Divine origin of our species, and of the imperishable nature of the human soul. But men of this description are very rare, and whenever they appear they are either a scourge or a blessing to mankind. For to them it is given, no doubt, for wise purposes to rule the destiny of nations by an irresistible ascendancy of a powerful mind. The fame of such a man is a crown of glory to the country to which he belongs; therefore, every nation strives to trace its origin to some great and distinguished character.

"We are certain that we are acting in unison with the popular feeling of this enlightened State, when we meet together to give a public testimony of our respect for the memory of William Penn, and to commemorate his first landing on our shores with the worthy companions of his labors. By this we not only pay a just debt of gratitude, but we raise and exalt the character and dignity of our own State, which came into existence, rose and flourished under the auspices of that great man. If the citizens of Massachusetts have just cause to be proud of their Pilgrims, whose landing on their shores they annually celebrate with a solemnity worthy of the occasion, how much more have we not reason to pride ourselves on our own Pilgrims and their illustrious leader, whose fame is only bounded by the extremities of the earth, and what greater name can we select as a rallying point for Pennsylvanians than that of William Penn? It is only to be regretted that it has not been done sooner, but that may be accounted for from various motives. But while, as citizens of this empire, we pay a deserved tribute to the illustrious men whom our Union has produced, while every revolving year sees us commemorate with festivity and song the day which gave birth to a Washington, and while the echo of the acclamations with which we have but a few days since greeted the great and good Lafayette has not yet ceased to reverberate, why should we be forgetful of that admirable man to whom, as a State, we are indebted for our political existence, of that sage, who, by the unanimous voice of mankind, has long since been ranked with



Numa and Confucious, and with the greatest among the legislators of ancient or modern times?

“Surely it cannot be said that we do not duly appreciate his merits; that we do not venerate his memory; that we are not sensible of the immense benefits that we have received at his hands, and of the honor that we derive from being entitled to call him peculiarly our own. Let us not doubt, therefore, that the example that we set will hereafter be regularly and extensively followed, and that this day will every year be set apart by every true Pennsylvanian for the commemoration of the first landing on our shores of William Penn and his virtuous followers.”

The speaker continued his address, without notes, for some time, presenting to his hearers the importance of maintaining the same principles that were so successfully established by the great Founder, and to do *this* we must, like *him*, submit ourselves to be guided and directed by the same Almighty power, even “Christ Jesus, the True Light, that enlightheneth every man that cometh into the world.” “Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”

MARY P. FAWKES, of West Grove, Pa., read the following selections, compiled for the occasion :

Dear friends, we have met on this bright autumn day,  
A tribute of love to our hero to pay;  
And as we have gathered from far and from near,  
I trust each will feel 'tis good to be here.

Like pilgrims we come and gather around  
The home of our fathers, to us hallowed ground,  
For this place is our Mecca, this spot is the shrine,  
The altar on which to lay gits, yours and mine.

Let our gifts be the symbols of honor to those  
Who first 'neath these shades sought peace and repose,  
Who suffered with bravery the truth to uphold:  
To whom freedom of conscience was better than gold

When the heart of George Fox was touched, as with fire,  
He hastened to Prelate and Priest to inquire  
The way of Salvation, but nought could he find  
That brought rest to his soul, or gave peace to his mind.

Then his spirit, enshrouded in shadows of night,  
Was quickly illumined by the true inward light,  
When he clearly discerned he must closely abide  
With the spirit of truth—hence his teacher and guide:

Then gathered about him such truth-seeking men  
As Ellwood and Pennington, Barclay and Penn;  
They founded a sect, and we freely must own  
We are reaping rich fruit from the seed they have sown.



The hand of oppression soon on them was laid,  
 But from duty none shrank, not one heart was afraid;  
 They were true to their faith, with united accord,  
 Their trust was reposed in the arm of the Lord.

'Twas trust ne'er betrayed, for His arm was their stay.  
 His finger it was that oft pointed the way;  
 His voice that gave comfort, they knew it was He,  
 Whose voice stilled the waves of the wild Galilee.

His spirit moved all o'er the scene, where darkened waters flow,  
 And on its face the power Divine was seen in light to glow;  
 And then it spread o'er all the earth and tripped the billows crest.  
 Upheaved the granite mountains and gave to life a zest.

The light that dawned on Fox's mind illumined all his way,  
 And o'er his prison walls had shed his bright and peaceful ray:  
 Clothed with this light Penn, too, had found no power could withstand  
 The simple truths which he proclaimed throughout his native land.

And thousands left the outward church where priest by man ordained,  
 Proclaimed a ritualistic creed that could not be sustained  
 By those who, by the spirit led, believed that He alone,  
 Who crowned all true assemblies, could make His presence known.

And in that light these champions moved! true soldiers of the cross,  
 And gathered many to the truth, despite their worldly loss.  
 Across the sea on German shores the truth spread far and wide,  
 As they pointed to the higher law—the spirit's surest guide.

Penn found the fields already white, the harvest nigh at hand,  
 To scatter seeds of righteousness broadcast throughout the land;  
 And many gathered at his call, of high and low degree,  
 To listen to the truth first taught on the shores of Galilee.

Though worldly men had sought to crush beneath a lifeless form  
 The truth proclaimed on Olivet by Him who ruled the storm,  
 And, like the power that reigned o'er all when Rome possessed the land,  
 They tried by prison walls to crush the little martyr band:

Although they could not raise the stake, nor fire the faggot pile,  
 They sought to crush the light of truth from out Britannia's isle,  
 The humble followers of Him who had no place to rest  
 Left their humble homes behind them for the forest in the west,

Where they could build an altar that should forever be  
 A shrine on which the human soul could have the conscience free.  
 And no one in that forest land to priest-craft should atone,  
 But might worship God in spirit and worship Him alone.

The Red men in their wilderness bade them welcome to their shore—  
 Made a simple treaty without oath which bound them evermore;  
 No force was used to bind them, but the word between them spoken  
 Was the simple law of justice! a law that ne'er was broken.

In this land o'er the sea, Penn was founding a State,  
 An asylum for all, both the poor and the great;  
 Two centuries have seen its prosperity grow  
 And millions to-day own the debt that they owe.

Let us ever step forward and mark on our shield  
 The symbol of faith to the Christian revealed,  
 In place of the sword, that its power may decrease,  
 For our crest we'll have only the emblem of peace.



Let us strive, as our fathers before us have striven,  
To win and to merit the favor of Heaven,  
To be true to our faith. May we never neglect  
To cherish the good and the evil reject.

Let us learn well the lessons their living has taught,  
Let us thank the dear Lord for the good they have wrought.  
Let us cherish the virtues their memory inspires,  
That the world may declare we are worthy our sires.

**HENRY S. KENT, of Hockessin, Delaware, then read an original poem:**

He came, he saw, he conquered with a sway  
Grandeur than Caesar's on his grandest day:  
His loins were girded for a nobler fight  
Than ever graced the tilt of feudal knight.  
The trophies of his conquest richer far  
Than Alexander ever brought from war.  
He heard deep voices calling from on high  
And quickly answered, here, O Lord! am I;  
I drop these carnal weapons from my side,  
For in Thy strength I safely shall abide,  
I bow no more before these man-made kings,  
Henceforth I put away all childish things.

He landed on this shore, and with him came  
Such blessings as immortalize his name.  
He spread amid the forest wild and chill  
The gospel of glad tidings and good will.  
Lo! how around his manly form they press,  
The untutored children of the wilderness;  
Drawn by some magic force or sweet command,  
Which all could feel but none could understand,  
And opening wide the treasures of his heart  
Gave, and received from the Diviner part,  
Waved with love's wand the savage soul aside,  
And on the "angel heart" of man relied.

Unlocked the hidden keys, that only move  
To music, at the touch of faith and love;  
And 'neath the elm tree's friendly shadows, made  
A covenant that never was betrayed.  
And taught the lesson we so slowly learn,  
That like from like will evermore return:  
That he who sows the whirlwind, reaps the storm.  
Who scatters joy, shall gather sunshine warm.  
That even the rudest soul that God has made  
Is with his holy nature underlaid.  
In man, in brute, in plant, in earth and air  
God leaves himself for witness everywhere.  
He felt the wisdom of the Prophet's words,  
"The earth with all its fullness is the Lord's."

He came, he saw, he conquered. Where had stood  
The savage wigwam in the darksome wood  
A splendid city rose at his command.  
To-day a glory of this western land,  
With marts of trade, and parks and gardens fair,  
Blue bordered by the noble Delaware.  
Here on old Upland too, where now we stand,  
We see the impress of his shaping hand,  
And hear, even yet, the echo of his voice,  
Christening these early children of his choice.





*Historical Sketch of Chester.*

Two hundred years blot many a memory;  
 Two hundred years are naught to such as he,  
 His name is written on our fields and groves,  
 Where still we dream his stately spirit moves,  
 His thoughts still linger in our written laws,  
 His words respoken, champion our cause.  
 The simple faith and worship that he loved,  
 Is still within our heart of hearts approved,  
 The path of duty he so bravely trod,  
 Leading through crosses to the Crown of God,  
 Laying the vanities of life aside,  
 Taking the light within for guide,  
 Shoals under foot, and thorns upon his head,  
 Exiled from home, to loathsome dungeons led,  
 Is still a story that we love to tell,  
 And children yet unborn shall learn it well.

He built and kept a state, upon a plan  
 Till then unthought of and untried by man,  
 The astonished nations turned their eyes and gazed,  
 Some archly smiled and others stood amazed.  
 A State it was whose corner stone was laid  
 In justice and whose every stone was made  
 Plumb to the line of truth, that could not move,  
 Set in the cement of fraternal love  
 And, grandly midst the warring nations, stood  
 This peaceful state of Penn unstained by blood.  
 One only state the whole wide world could count,  
 That yet had tried the Gospel of the Mount.  
 And did it fail? Nay never while his hand  
 Was at the helm, his voice in the command.

Two generations came and passed away  
 Before the advent of that evil day.  
 Then in the place of that high ruler stood  
 Men of the vengeful spirit, men of blood;  
 Unfitted for a place of trust so high,  
 Let fall this star of promise from our sky;  
 Failure! Nay, never till the soul of man  
 Shall be remodeled on another plan.  
 The law of love is not a mere device  
 Framed in a senate, purchased for a price,  
 Suited to human need a little while,  
 Good for to-day, to-morrow out of style—  
 But *God's Eternal Power* that cannot fail,  
 That was, and is, and ever shall prevail.

Illustrious sage, thy spirit still is here,  
 We feel thy presence in our atmosphere.  
 For lo! the Lord's true prophet never dies—  
 From the deep earth immortal voices rise.  
 The holy Christ is slain, and it may stay  
 In a closed sepulchre perchance a day;  
 But soon the martyred truth shall rise again,  
 And eat and drink an honored guest with men.  
 Already 'midst the clang of strife we hear  
 Deep undervoices sounding rich and clear,  
 Bidding the listening nations pave the way  
 For the incoming of a better day,  
 When war no more shall raise his bloody hands,  
 But white-winged peace shall hover o'er the lands;  
 When in the court of nations, states decide

The following text is extremely faint and illegible. It appears to be a list or a series of entries, possibly a table of contents or a list of references, but the specific details cannot be discerned.

To arbitrate their claims, and so abide  
When justice, truth and love shall rule alone  
And God's great families shall be as one.

And it were shame on his memorial day  
A single warlike emblem to display.  
Let every martial sound and symbol cease,  
And let the pageant show the arts of peace;  
Each industry its finest triumph bring.  
Let spindles hum, and ceaseless hammers ring;  
Let each brave workman show his brawny hand,  
The bone and sinew of our growing land;  
Light up the streets with bright electric fire,  
But let the flash of powder all retire;  
If any ensign to the breeze we throw,  
Let it be spotless as the driven snow.  
Peace, Justice, Progress, are the words to say  
With emphasis on his memorial day.

And let us trust, the heavenly bread he cast  
Upon our waters may return at last,  
Bringing the nations nourishment and health,  
Replacing vice with virtue, waste with wealth,  
Strengthening the bonds of human brotherhood,  
Closing forevermore the reign of blood,  
His purer, wiser statesmanship renewed,  
That simply sought for all the highest good,  
Our jurists tutored in a higher school,  
Our statutes fashioned by the Golden Rule,  
Works meet for Heaven upon the earth be done,  
The higher and the lower law made one.  
May his large sacrifice for human weal  
Inflame our spirits with a finer zeal  
To do our work while it is yet our day,  
And walk where Truth's stern finger points the way,  
Not stepping feebly in the tracks he trod,  
But walking firmly in *our* light from God,  
Copying no man as he did well express,  
Save in the matter of true faithfulness.

This caution from his sainted lips we hear:  
"Mind ye your light, for God to each is near,  
His revelation as directly given  
As in the very light and heat of Heaven,  
No man-made priest has ever reconciled  
The Heavenly Parent and the Earthly Child.  
Let modes of worship change, or pass away,  
They are not vital and they will not stay.  
But cherish ever with a jealous care  
The basal structure of our house of prayer,  
The faith in simple goodness, and the light  
Within the soul, to lead our steps aright,  
The largest liberty to seek, and find  
The mission of our hand, and heart, and mind,"

True to his light he won this honored place  
Among the benefactors of his race,  
Nor for the age in which he lived alone,  
But for all coming time his work was done.  
His name is written with the Angel's pen  
In living letters, in the hearts of men,  
And still while generations come and go,



His name and fame perennial shall grow.  
Peace, Truth, Love, Justice, will be lovely when  
Our children's children meet to honor Penn.  
These are enduring things and meant to stay,  
Which Bi-Centennials cannot wear away.

Brief and appropriate addresses were made by Dr. Elwood Harvey and Allen Flitcraft, of Chester, Pa., Alfred H. Love, President of the Universal Peace Union, Samuel S. Ash and T. Elwood Longshore, of Philadelphia.

After a short season of silence, with feelings of gratitude and thankfulness to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, the interesting and profitable occasion closed.





MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1882.

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**THE MORNING.**

**T**HE day fixed for the celebration of the Bi-Centenary of the Landing of William Penn in Chester, was ushered in soon after midnight by the ringing of all the bells in the city, each bell giving two hundred strokes. The morning was cloudy and threatening but as the day advanced the weather changed for the better. The city put on its gala dress, at an early hour the houses being handsomely decorated and flags flying from every available point. The Historical Committee had designated all the important historical sites with banners, on which the name and date of construction were plainly marked, while at the Landing place a staff, eighty feet high, carried the American colors, and it was evident from the beginning that the citizens had given themselves up heartily to the enjoyment of the great anniversary. All the mills and industrial establishments in the city and many of those in the county were closed, and, as a consequence, people had little else to do than to participate in the exercises of the day. Residents of the city and county, and hundreds of visitors, who had arrived on Saturday, to spend the Bi-Centennial season with friends, thronged the streets long before the hour for the celebration to begin, and each incoming train, from the north and south, brought thousands to the city.

As early as eight o'clock people began to assemble in the vicinity of Front and Penn streets, on the spot on which Penn actually landed, October 28th, 1682, and where a representation of that landing was to be given as nearly as it could be reproduced.

A half hour before the appointed time—9.30 o'clock—for the ex-





ercises to take place the vicinity was crowded. Thousands of people had gathered there, on the streets, on house tops, on porches, on fences, on freight cars, in Charles D. Pennell's lumber yard, on trees, and the wharves along the river. The river itself was gay with steamers, tugs, sail and small boats of every description, and the Revenue Cutter Hamilton, brought down from Philadelphia a large party of distinguished citizens of the State.

As the large, high sided, full bottomed yawl boat came up the river, rowed by six sturdy seamen, appropriately dressed, with the representatives of Penn and his friends standing in the stern, the excitement visibly increased, and as it headed for the landing place, amid the ringing of bells, the sounding of whistles and the music of bands, the people on shore cheered and crowded forward to witness the landing, which was successfully effected with no accident or delay to mar the picture.

William Penn was represented by John J. Hare, of Chester, and the other characters were supported by members of the Chester Dramatic Association and the organizations of Red Men. The entire scene, which followed the landing, was very well acted and the participants in the mimic scene never once forgot the characters they had taken. All was quiet and dignified and this portion of the day's exercises, like all the rest, passed off admirably.

Penn with his companions, Richard Townsend, (R. P. Wilson;) Evan Oliver, (William Irving;) John Stackhouse, (John F. Wright;) William Bradford, (F. E. Reiley;) Nicholas Wahn, (J. H. Wilson;) and the Master of the "Welcome," Robert Greenaway, (William P. Mason;) landed and were met by William Markham, (William P. Ladomus;) and the resident English Friends; Robert Wade, (Wm. H. Schureman;) John Sharpless, (Joseph Hinkson;) Robert Pearson, (Joseph Martin;) and the Scotchman, James Sandelands, (Wm. Ewing.) A group in the rear was composed of Swedes and Dutch. Charles Jansen, (Moses Hewitt;) Neals Mattson, (George Compton;) Johan Stille, (William Hinkson;) Jurian Kyn, (Samuel Wheaton;) Neals Larson, (George Morris;) Hans Volsen, (Samuel Jones.)

As Penn landed Markham stepped forward and greeted him as follows :

"Friend William, I welcome thee to thy new possessions. It has pleased God, through his instrument, Charles, to give to thee and



thy fellows a fair and rich land and to bring thee in safety to the end of thy perilous voyage and to the fruition of thy labors. Thou art surely welcome among us."

*Penn* replied: "I thank thee, friend William, for thy kindly greeting and welcome to this far land. Truly it hath pleased God to bring our ships safely to these pleasant shores. Sometimes we thought we might scarcely reach them, for the hand of death hath been busy amongst us, and the pestilence hath taken home many of our number. Is it well with thee, friend William, and with those of our faith, who have crossed before us: I have heard, as thou knowest, somewhat from our friend George Fox of the country to which I am now come and of the bright future it holds out for those of our faith; and here, too, are some of thy old friends waiting to greet thee."

Markham turned and greeted the associates of Penn cordially and by name, but with grave courtesy. All the proceedings were marked by deliberation, a dignified demeanor and a subdued manner, while the warmth of the meeting of old friends was also borne in mind. Penn gazed around him until Markham returned to his side, when he said:

"And now, friend William, do thou make me known to these friends who have gathered to meet me."

Robert Wade and Pearson then pressed forward to meet Penn, whom they had known in England.

Then Markham introduced Sandelands, Jurian Kyn, Johan Stille, Neals Mattson, Neals Larson and Charles Jansen, &c., who approached and met Penn with an appearance of warmth, but evidently with some uneasiness, till Penn spoke, and as he continued their demeanor changed to one of sincere welcome:

*Penn*: "These then are the men who first braved the dangers and toils of settlement in this far land. They are welcome to me and we may hope that they may prove our good allies and neighbors. As for our part sure it is that we shall not seek aught but amity and brotherly love. It is but right they should reap the harvest where they have sown with so much toil and pain, and their lands and houses shall be confirmed to them, and in no wise shall they be disturbed in their rights by us. Their possession shall be assured to them in full freedom as much as if they were of our own granting. We will ask for nothing but their love and brotherly help."

Then Markham, after a short pause, said: "But, friend William, here are others for thee to meet. That people who of right owned the fair hills and valleys of the great river. Yonder sits their wise and good chief, Tamanand. It seems but fitting that thou shouldst,



as soon as may be, greet these warriors of the Lenni Lenape, for they are curiously jealous of the vanities of form and ceremony, and deem no king even should take precedence of their great chief."

*Penn:* "So it ought to be, and I will straightway follow thee, for I long to see the man of whose bravery, virtue and wisdom even we in England have heard."

The entire party then, Penn and Markham leading, followed immediately by the resident Friends and Penn's companions, and at a little distance by the other characters, including the seamen, walked slowly to where Tamanand was sitting, surrounded by his noted chiefs. The other Indians gathered about in a circle. Penn seated himself on a stone opposite the chief. Then one of the younger chiefs rose slowly and with dignity spoke thus:

"I am called Bears Meat. I am not old. When I was a child the white man first came to this shore in his big canoe with wings. I have lived to see many things. First came one tribe. They built forts and sometimes took our land. The hatchet was not always buried. Sometimes it was very red. Then came Corlaer. They were just men. The chain was not often dull. There were few clouds between us. Then came the Yengese. The chain that Corlaer held they took. They, too, were just. The stranger was always welcome to the Lenni Lenape for the sake of Corlaer. We have been told that a great chief was coming. He is here. It was whispered that he was a great and good and just man; a warrior whose words were not blown away about the Council fire. It is so; we can see it in his face; he will keep the chain bright. Here is Tamanand of many years. The Father of his people will welcome the stranger who comes as the friend of the Delawares."

A short silence followed, after which Tamanand rose slowly and addressed Penn:

"My young man has spoken truly. He is a wise chief. I am Tamanand of many years: the Father of the Delawares: the world rests upon my turtle. When Tamanand was a little child there was no white man in the land. When the white man came he was welcome. My people gave him venison and corn. The Great Spirit has brought this chief here. The Manitou of our Fathers is now among us listening to our words and looking at our hearts. This is not a Council. All should be said and thought for the best. Tamanand has always been the friend of the stranger. He cannot now make himself a liar. The Great White Chief is welcome. We have heard he is good and just. That is well. The Manitou loves just men. Tamanand had a vision many summers ago. He dreamed he saw these hills and valleys covered with white men, many as the sand on the shore, but he saw no Lenape. At first his heart



was hot within him; then it became as the heart of a little child. It was the will of the Manitou. The Lenape will go back to their homes, near the setting sun, when that time comes. The stranger is welcome. It is the wind of the Manitou that has blown his canoe to our shore. He is welcome."

Tamanand then resumed his seat. A short silence followed, with guttural murmurs of assent from the Indians, and then with a dignity equal to that of Tamanand, William Penn rose:

*Penn:* "It is pleasant to hear the words of wisdom and of peace from the lips of the old. Thy words, Tamanand, have gone deep into my heart; thou art a good and wise chief; the chain shall be kept bright; the hatchet shall be buried forever between me and thee; if the white man wishes for land to plant corn, he will come to thee and say: 'Give me land where thou wilt and I will pay thee.' It shall be justly done. The stranger shall not take that which is not his own. Thy treaties with Corlar shall be as they have been. What Corlar promised we will do. What the stranger needs he shall pay for; there shall be no cloud of unjust dealing between thee and me; only the broad sunshine of justice and peace. I, too, have looked far away into the dream world; into that land of clouds when you and I shall have passed away to the Happy Hunting Grounds, as thou wouldst term the Heaven of our God. I saw a great town where we now stand. I saw noble industries and broad farms about it. I saw countless ships at its wharves and strange forms of new devices which I could not understand. I saw a just and a free people honoring God and their own manhood. But I, too, saw none of thy people. Thou art right. When that time comes they will have gone back to their far off homes bearing gifts and kind words from their white brothers. That time has not yet come. Thou art the owner here. Thou hast welcomed us. For myself and these, my friends, I thank thee and thy people. God shall judge between us, if either wrong the other."

Another murmur of approval from the Indians. Then Robert Wade approached and said:

"Will it please thee, friend William, to eat thy food in my poor house? Thou shalt be right welcome. Thou and thy people."

*Penn:* "I am right willing to do so, friend Robert, and it is but right that we should seek refreshment for these weak bodies of ours. Lead thou the way and I shall follow."

Then followed a courteous and dignified farewell to the Indians, Penn touching hands with the principal chiefs, and the whole party, headed by Penn and Wade, crossed to the site of the Essex House.

The part of Tamanand was well taken by Arthur Martin, and that of Bears Meat by Henry Greenwood. The braves, all of whom





with their chiefs were in full Indian costume, were personated by Herbert Tunnicliffe, Terrill T. Williams, Henry P. Haney, John Coffin, James Thompson, C. George Hiorth, Eli M. Weest and Frazer S. Stanley.

After this successful inauguration of the day the crowd made its way to the open lot, corner of Concord avenue and Second street, where the grand stand had been erected and seats for two thousand public school children arranged on the two sides of the square fronting the stand, with a raised platform for the band, in the corner of the square. The sight of those eager young faces of children, dressed in holiday garb, with their school flags, badges and medals, was one that will not easily be forgotten, and the music of those hundreds of sweet young voices will long linger in the memory of those who listened.

On the grand stand were a number of prominent citizens, including the invited guests from Philadelphia and elsewhere, and the civic dignitaries from surrounding cities. Among these were Governor Hoyt, Col. A. Wilson Norris, Adjutant General James W. Latta, Col. D. Stanley Hassinger, Col. Campbell Tucker, Chief Engineer Samuel L. Smedley, the Executive Committee of the Bi-Centennial Association, Captain Dean, U. S. R. M.; Col. M. Richards Muckle, Major Charles K. Ide, President John McDonald, of the Produce Exchange, Frederick Lovejoy, Charles Lain, Carl Edelhain and S. J. Linch, Hugh J. Hamill, Galloway C. Morris, John E. Ford, Lewis Wiener and Alexander Barrows, of Baltimore. Mayor Barton, ex-Mayors Larkin and Forwood, Messrs. G. P. Denis and D. F. Houston, Hons. William Ward and Robert Chadwick, Cols. W. C. Gray and P. M. Washabaugh, of Chester; George E. Darlington, of Media; Hon. W. B. Waddell and Robert E. Monaghan, of West Chester; William Simpson, Benjamin Gartside, Samuel Riddle, Daniel C. Abrams, Samuel Lewis, Hon. John M. Broomall, George Broomall, David S. Bunting, Charles Roberts, Hugh Shaw, John B. Roach, Abram Blakeley, Richard Miller, H. B. Black, Orlando Harvey, Revs. Thos. J. McCauley, Wm. J. Paxson, Henry Brown and others.

The number of people assembled in the square and streets near by must have exceeded ten thousand. They thronged upon the ground, the fences and the porches of the neighboring dwellings, while all convenient windows and housetops were filled with expect-



tant faces, and the trees and lamp-posts bore a large crop of the ubiquitous small boy.

The exercises began with some fine music by Oglesby's band of fifty pieces, stationed on the music stand, and when the last strains had died away, JAMES BARTON, Jr., Mayor of the City of Chester, stepped forward and spoke as follows :

"Benjamin Ferris, in a letter written by him December 31st, 1851, which letter is now in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, refers to an old manuscript book or diary of Evan Oliver, one of the passengers on the ship 'Welcome,' in which is found the following passage: 'We came out of Radnorshire, in Wales, about the beginning of the 6th month, ( August ) 1682, and arrived at Upland, in Pennsylvania, in America, the 28th of the 8th month, 1682.'

"We know from William Penn's own manuscript that he was in the town of Upland the next day, namely the 29th. It is therefore probable that William Penn landed in Upland, now Chester, on the 28th.

"By an Act of the English Parliament, passed in 1751, for equalizing the style of computation of time with the other countries of Europe, eleven days were omitted from the calendar, and the legal year was made to begin on the first day of January, instead of the 25th day of March. In consequence of the passage of that Act, the 200th anniversary of the landing of Penn falls on the 7th of November, 1882.

"It may be asked why the citizens of Chester celebrate the landing on the 23d of October, fifteen days in advance of the admitted time.

"Without entering into a discussion of the propriety or impropriety of celebrating an event upon any other day than its anniversary, I may say that the date for this celebration was fixed at the request of the Bi-Centennial Association of Pennsylvania. At a meeting of that association, held last May, in Philadelphia, a resolution was adopted requesting the people of Chester to observe the 23d of October, and offering their co-operation. They had fixed upon the week commencing October 22d for the general celebration, leaving Monday open for Chester, that the ceremonies might properly commence upon the spot where the landing actually occurred. We adopted the suggestion contained in their resolutions, deeming it expedient that the celebrations in the two cities should be continuous and uninterrupted even by the interval of a few days.

"For some reason best known to themselves, the gentlemen having in charge the details of the ceremonies on the 24th in Philadelphia, concluded to have a landing for themselves on that day, notwithstanding the fact that the first landing that William Penn ever made in their town was in 1683, when he went to Philadelphia, possibly



on horseback, after having decided to change his seat of government from the former to the latter place.

“As a natural sequence, the encouragement and co-operation assured to us by the State Association in its earlier history have not been extended by the subordinate officers, namely by those in whose power it has been recently to render substantial assistance without trouble to themselves, and without interference with their own naval display designed to commemorate the landing of Penn—from horseback, possibly—in their city in 1683. Therefore, while to-morrow Philadelphia will indulge in a fiction of a Penn’s Landing, Chester to-day reproduces the counterpart of the original that history recognizes. The naval display which we had expected up to within a few days we could present to you as an interesting feature of the ceremonies in commemoration of the original landing, is denied us, while a large fleet is at this very moment lying quietly at anchor within a few miles of us; lacking only the consent of the gentlemen before referred to, to enable them to appear in the waters before our city.

“To our visitors I desire to extend a cordial welcome. I trust that you may be interested in our exercises and that you may return to your homes without accident, and with a pleasant recollection of your visit among us.”

On the conclusion of this address the Rev. Henry Brown, Rector of St. Paul’s Church, Chester, made the following prayer :

“Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who art the author and giver of all good things, we desire to bless Thee for Thy merciful kindness towards us in the past and to pray that Thou wilt graciously continue Thy goodness to us in the future; that Thou wilt be with us as Thou wast with our fathers.

“We thank Thee, O Lord, for the good examples of all those, Thy servants, who having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors, especially for the good example and good deeds of Thy servant, the Proprietor and first Governor of this great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, who two centuries ago landed upon these shores, and was enabled by Thy help to lay foundations deep and broad upon principles of truth, justice and peace for the maintenance of peace, for the maintenance of law and good Government, with equal rights for all, and that every man should have liberty to worship Thee according to the dictates of his own conscience, with none to make him afraid. It is of such, Thou hast said, they shall be had in everlasting remembrance. We come to do honor to-day to the memory of William Penn in calling to mind his pure life, his faith in God, his wise, beneficent government, and to thank Thee for the blessings we now enjoy through his instrumentality. Be with us in the exercises of this day. May we not fall into sin, or run into any kind of danger.



“Bless our rulers—the President of these United States, the Governors of each State, our Senators and Representatives, the Legislators of the State of Pennsylvania, and all who bear office among us—may they be men fearing God and working righteousness. Direct them in all their doings with Thy most gracious favor and further them with Thy continual help. And graciously incline the hearts of all the people of our land to Thy fear and love, that it may be well with them in the land which Thou gavest unto their fathers, and when our work on earth is done receive us unto Thy kingdom in Heaven through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.”

The school children then sang very sweetly and in good time the well known hymn, “America.” The singing by two thousand of these little ones, under the able direction of Prof. John R. Sweney, and accompanied by Oglesby’s band, was one of the most effective features of the day.

After this Governor Hoyt was introduced to the assemblage and as soon as the applause which greeted his appearance subsided, made a brief address, in which he thanked the Committee for their invitation to be present and congratulated his hearers upon the progress that had been made in the past two hundred years, at the same time expressing the conviction that the humanizing principles upon which Penn had founded this grand old Commonwealth had spread among the people of the different nationalities who made up its sturdy and industrious population and still had active existence.

When the Governor had concluded his remarks the band gave a fine selection, and this was followed by an original poem by the Rev. SAMUEL PANCOAST, of Conshohocken M. E. Church :

#### BI-CENTENNIAL POEM.

With reverent steps we tread this ground,  
While sacred memories cluster round,  
And gather o’er historic lines,  
The past and present in our minds.

Hail, sacred morn, whose rosy light  
Dawns on our land so rich and bright,  
Where dwells the truths in hearts of men,  
Bequeathed us by our Founder Penn.

Borne to this river’s quiet side,  
By gentle winds and flowing tide,  
Was that true man, so good and great,  
Whose landing now we celebrate.

A forest vast, stretched far away  
Beyond the hills of setting day,  
Where treasures vast were locked in store  
Of mountain wood and buried ore.

The Sylvan groves, without a bound,  
For which a name had not been found,  
This good man saw like parchment fair,  
And placed his name forever there.





In honesty the bounds he laid  
 With lines well drawn and clearly made,  
 With treaty true and title sure,  
 Should stand through centuries secure.

He had not come in quest of wealth,  
 The fruit of avarice, fraud and stealth,  
 But to enrich all hearts and hands,  
 Who sought a home within these lands.

He had not come with cruel heart,  
 To play with shame the Tyrant's part,  
 But that in this domain should be  
 The glorious reign of liberty.

He left a land where men did groan  
 Beneath the power of despotic throne,  
 Where prisons dark and towers strong  
 Were scenes of infamy and wrong.

He taught that conscience should be free,  
 And all mankind should equal be,  
 Before that God, who rules o'er all  
 With love alike to great and small.

In prison cells he learned to prize  
 The rights of all beneath the skies,  
 And sought this land beyond the sea,  
 Where men forever should be free.

Like peaceful suns which rise to bless,  
 And clothe the world with beauteous dress,  
 So came this man to break the gloom,  
 And make the desert sing and bloom.

With head so wise, with heart so pure,  
 He framed the laws that should endure,  
 That truth and justice should prevail,  
 And righteousness should never fail.

No stars so bright had ever shone  
 Around an earthly monarch's throne,  
 As gathered in the precepts rare  
 In which his colony should share.

Here patient toil rewards should gain  
 And gather wealth from fertile plain,  
 In peaceful homes the land abound  
 And plenty everywhere be found.

For dazzling court no place was made,  
 For titled rank no plan was laid,  
 But every man a sovereign born,  
 Whom truth and virtue should adorn.

No ranks of men, with burnished arms,  
 To shelter men from fancied harms,  
 Stood round this band of honest men,  
 Who shared the faith of William Penn.

The brotherhood of men they taught  
 That war with cruelty was naught,  
 And conquest higher they could show  
 Without an arrow from the bow.

No fettered slave among them stood  
 And handled with ignoble blood,  
 No unyielding toil they sought to gain,  
 Secured by stripes or threats of pain.

But every man by birth was free,  
 Whate'er his clime or color be,  
 And thus proclaimed no power can  
 Give right to property in man.

No one was forced by oath to say  
 These truthful precepts they'd obey,  
 For with the good there never needs  
 An oath to bind to sacred deeds.

We learn to-day from many a page  
 Our progress made from age to age,



Since first our Fathers landed here,  
Until this Bi-Centennial year.

From forest deep came fertile fields,  
Which year by year rich harvest yields.  
And mines of wealth which constant pour  
Their treasures vast in bounteous store.

Where then were wastes now cities stand,  
And bounteous towns dot all the land,  
And industry and watchful care  
Have scattered plenty everywhere.

And science, too, her seat hath spread,  
And wisdom in her light doth tread,  
Upon her record names now stand,  
The peers of any other land.

And in these centuries which have gone  
What tongue can tell the labor done,  
Or what the progress mind has made,  
Or what the gathered stores of trade.

How mines of wealth have been explored,  
How streams of oil like rivers poured,  
From mountain side to cities great,  
Throughout this grand and mighty State.

The peace that early was bestowed  
Has found with us a safe abode,  
And yet we stood with courage brave,  
The wrong to crush, the right to save.

The right to save the earth has drank  
The blood of men by rank in rank,  
And their brave deeds gave us renown  
At Brandywine and Germantown.

Along our valleys thick are spread  
The graves of our heroic dead,  
Whose sacred dust we guard with care,  
And in whose fame we all do share.

And step by step our Nation's power  
Has risen like a lofty tower,  
And spread an arch from sea to sea,  
While Penn's great State has been the key.

And through the Nation's wondrous life,  
Of burdened cares and bitter strife,  
Our Key-stone stood, with strength and grace,  
Which not a hand could e'er efface.

Now while the past we bid adieu,  
And to the future cast our view,  
Our vision sweeps the prospect bright,  
That everywhere breaks on our sight.

Our vast resources now revealed,  
Is pouring wealth from every field  
And causing rich supplies to come  
Around the hearth of every home.

By products of our brain and hand  
We build our homes and till our land,  
By lightning, too, our letter write,  
And chase the darkness from the night.

The near and distant now come nigh,  
While words o'er lengthened wires fly,  
And miles away the listening ear,  
The words of love and profit hear.

And where the ship once anchor cast,  
With wooden sides and slender mast,  
And from whose deck the little band  
Of Penn first looked upon this land,

We build great ships of lengthened keel,  
With iron sides and ribs of steel,  
Whose giant prows can ever brave  
The greatest force of ocean's wave.



What now is past so strange doth seem,  
As story told of fairy's dream,  
But coming men will yet relate  
Of greater progress in this State.

By our great schools, in number vast,  
The future shall exceed the past,  
And cultured care shall make sublime  
The glory of the coming time.

And when he's passed a century more,  
And others gather on this shore  
To tell of further triumphs, then  
They'll bless the name of William Penn.

Then the children sang again "Two Hundred Years have Rolled Away;" words by George Cooper, of New York, music by Professor Sweney, and after this the Orator of the day, Hon. JOHN M. BROOMALL, of Media, was introduced and spoke as follows :

The event we commemorate stands alone. It has no parallel in the history of the founding of States and Nations. Two centuries ago a few men, backed by no military power and proposing to use none, landed here, in a country possessed by barbarous tribes, rendered suspicious and inimical by the treatment they had received at the hands of the kindred of the immigrants for more than a century, and by pure force of kindness and justice obtained possession of the country and founded a State. To render the enterprise more difficult, settlements had been made at the same place by civilized men of two other nations, hostile to one another and to the immigrants, and not living upon the best terms with the natives, men who had left their homes in Europe from a spirit of restlessness if not lawlessness; and who had effected a precarious lodgment among the natives by force or threat of arms, meeting cruelty with cruelty, crime with crime, the tomahawk and scalping knife with the gun and sword. And yet in a few months all these discordant elements had been reduced to peaceable and willing submission to a single master mind.

William Penn was no ordinary man. Living in an age of superstition and bigotry, with the fires of the inquisition hardly extinguished, with the prison and the gallows still the recognized means of advancing the cause of Christianity, he became the champion of universal liberty of conscience, a measure then looked upon as the most insidious form of heresy. When the nations of Europe knew no mode of settling their disputes except by the sword, and when a depraved public taste made war the only occupation of a gentleman, he urged upon the Rulers, both by tongue and pen, the establishment of an international tribunal, to decide their controversies; thus anticipating by two hundred years, the measure which is now demanding the attention of the civilized world in terms that will not long be denied or evaded. War means national debt; and there is a limit to the ability of nations to borrow. When that limit is reached, Europe must break down in anarchy or quit fighting.

When even the churches taught that uncivilized men have no rights which Christians are bound to respect; and that the only way to deal with a weaker people is with brute force, Penn refused to receive the property of the Indians except by fair purchase. And he met them, not with ships bristling with cannon, not with armed legions, but as friend meets friend, with hand as open as his heart, inviting the fraternal feeling he extended, the love he felt, in the name of the universal Father, the God of Love. In short he taught the principles inculcated in the Sermon on the Mount were not glittering generalities, the effusions of a mere dreamer, but were intended as a rule of human conduct for States and Nations as well as individuals. Will the Christian world in its nineteenth century say he was wrong?

There are two modes of obtaining the property of another. One is by



stealing it. If the job is small this is called larceny; if large it is called war. In the former case the perpetrator is locked up; in the latter he is crowned. The other mode is by buying it. This requires the assent of two minds, mutually agreeing to the change of ownership. The watchword of the reform mode is: "To the victors belong the spoils," while that of the latter mode is: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." There are two modes of settling disputes, whether individual or national. One is by submitting them to the arbitrary will of the stronger. In this also, the nomenclature differs with the magnitude of the job. If small it is called assault and battery, if large it is called war. The other is by agreement. This may be either an agreement to settle, or an agreement to submit the cause of quarrel to the arbitrament of disinterested men. On both these subjects Penn had decided convictions and they governed his conduct through life.

As far as we know he was the first to suggest the settlement of national disputes by arbitration. In an essay entitled the "Present and Future Peace of Europe," he proposed that Europe should have its Congress, as has already been stated, to which all disputes among the various nations should be submitted for final arbitration. He spoke of a time when individual disputes were settled by fighting, and argued that as all that had changed with advancing civilization, so that almost all such disputes are now settled by peaceful means, nations also if they would set about it in real earnest, might provide a tribunal that would settle peaceably nine cases of war out of every ten. It would have gladdened his heart if he could have foreseen that his native England within two centuries would adopt his plan substantially, and would settle all her disputes with equal nations by arbitration; though the effect might have been weakened if he could also have foreseen that England still reserves war as a means of bringing a weaker people to her way of thinking.

William Penn was born on the fourteenth day of October, 1644. His father, who afterwards became Sir William Penn, a few days before the birth of the child had accepted the command of a man-of-war destined to cruise in the Irish seas, in the interests of the Parliament, then engaged in its struggles with the king—a struggle which terminated by the deposition and judicial murder of that unfortunate monarch. The elder Penn certainly had no hostility to the Stuarts, for he was suspected with good reason of intriguing with the second Charles long before his restoration; and he became afterwards personally attached to both Charles and James, and appointed the latter guardian of his son. He probably thought with reason that the navy, to be efficient, should be on the side of the government *de facto*. Hence, when the Parliament had triumphed over the king, he sided with the Parliament. When the Protector had dispersed the Parliament he took employment under the Protector, and when the signs of the times began to point toward a restoration of the Stuart dynasty he was among the earliest to take upon himself the allegiance of Charles II. For his services in this regard he was knighted and created "Great Captain Commander," a title which was invented for him, which died with him and was never revived.

The services rendered by the gallant Captain to the Commonwealth were invaluable, he being a most efficient naval officer. They continued for about eleven years, when they were abruptly brought to a close by his arrest and commitment to the Tower. This was not for the offence of which he was really guilty, his correspondence with the exiled royal family, an offence known to the Protector and overlooked on account of the valuable services of the offender, but for the failure of an attack on Hispaniola, for which he was in no way responsible. On being released, which was done without a trial, he took his family to his estates in Ireland, where his son William received instruction preparatory to his entering at Oxford, which he did in 1659.

In the meantime the Protector died, his son, after a short term of power, was set aside and Charles Stuart restored to the throne. The services rendered by the elder Penn in the restoration were gratefully acknowledged by





the gay and fickle monarch and by his more serious, but less fortunate brother, who succeeded him to the throne; and a friendship sprang up between the Stuarts and the Penns which greatly aided the younger Penn in carrying out, at least for a time, his favorite political dogma of universal toleration.

While at Oxford the idea of founding a Commonwealth, where rights should be equal and religion free, first entered Penn's mind. The New World seemed to invite such an undertaking. His position at college was far from being agreeable. Simple in his tastes and habits, and impatient of arbitrary restraint, the dress, the ceremonies and observances, forced upon the students by the State church, were exceedingly irksome to him, and he at last refused to conform to its requirements. This resulted in his expulsion at the age of eighteen, and he returned home to meet the angry frowns of his father, who could neither appreciate nor understand the fact that a mere boy should be governed by a sense of duty other than the duty imposed by parents and teachers. Finally the boy was beaten and turned out of doors.

Through the intercession of his mother, however, he was soon brought home and forgiven; and after a time he was sent to Paris, where he completed his education and acquired graces and accomplishments of mind and manners for which he was ever afterwards distinguished. At the age of twenty he returned to London, where his father then resided, and remained there with the family until the plague broke out in 1665. This devastating scourge cast a gloom over the whole city. Terror and despair marked every countenance; and to a mind like Penn's it was no wonder that the awful solemnity took the shape of an inquiry into the state of his conscience. What ought he to do? What duty did he owe to his Maker and his fellow-men?

Having been sent to Ireland to attend to the family estates there, he met with Thomas Loe, an eminent minister of the Society of Friends. The principles of that Society, as expounded by the preacher, seemed to be in accordance with his own convictions. Their love of peace, their advocacy of human rights, their hatred of State religions, their denial of the divine right of kings and priests, met answering responses in the heart of the young philanthropist. They stimulated his hatred of rituals and priestly requirements and his dreams of republican equality among men. In short, Penn became a Quaker, and his father recalled him, expostulated with him angrily, but vainly, and turned him out of doors a second time. This defection of his son was the more severe upon the Admiral from the fact that he had the offer of the Peerage under the title of Lord Weymouth. But his son refused to be the heir apparent to a title of nobility, and the Admiral, deeply mortified, felt constrained to decline the proffered honor.

It is said that we are what we are very much by reason of our antecedents and surroundings. If this be true, it would be curious to inquire how much of Penn's mental constitution came to him by inheritance. His love of Peace hardly descended from his father who spent half a life time in the naval service of Great Britain, nor from his grandfather a captain in the merchant service, then almost as warlike as the navy; and his love of justice and fairness and honor was not likely to come in the blood of the man who, while enjoying the confidence of the Protector and receiving his pay, proposed to surrender the royal navy to Charles Stuart, and was only prevented from doing so by that fugitive Prince having no port or harbor to shelter it.

Possibly his gentleness and kindness of heart, as well as other attributes of higher and better life were inherited from his mother, Margaret Jasper, who was the daughter of a merchant of Rotterdam. However this may be, she seems to have understood her son better than his father did and to have frequently softened the asperities which their exceedingly discordant mental constitutions caused by their paternal and filial intercourse. But from the fact that he transmitted so little of himself to his descendants it is not unlikely that he owed as little to his antecedents.

His surroundings were such as to develop, for good or evil, all the force of



character he had. Coming to the age of thought when England was in a state of peculiar ferment from theological controversies, and being himself drawn into the vortex, his sufferings which failed to crush him, modified and shaped his whole career. A man of less moral and religious convictions and less force of will, under the treatment he received, would have sunk into the criminal. Cruelty and oppression are powerful elements in the formation of character; and whether they make the subject a saint or a fiend depends upon whether or not he has sufficient mental and moral force to rise above the demoralizing influences. It is well it

Like some tall cliff that rears its awful form,  
Swells from the vale and midway leaves the storm,  
Though round its base the rolling clouds are spread,  
Eternal sunshine settles on its head.

But suppose there should not be enough in the head to rise above the rolling clouds? Society is responsible for the downfall of many a man whom it might have saved. Penn, however, was not at the mercy of circumstances. Injustice and persecution could not debase him or make him cruel; almost unlimited power in his province could not make him a tyrant, and the seductive flatteries of court life could not destroy his republican simplicity.

The severe ordeal through which Penn passed and which contributed largely to make him what he was, is an interesting historical study. The Church of England, occupying a position midway between the Catholics and advanced Protestants, looked with a jealous eye upon both. Having control of the civil power, it determined to hold its advantage against both extremes. The royal family was suspected of leaning toward Popery; and the State Church, instead of combining all Protestantism against Rome, affected to believe that the Dissenters were in league with the Pope; and that every meeting in the name of religion, unless under the authority of the civil law and supported by tithes collected by legal machinery was in the interest of the Babylonish harlot.

In 1664, these reverend zealots compelled the Parliament to pass the Conventicle Act and to renew it again in 1670. This act made it a penal offense for more than five persons, exclusive of the family to meet for religious worship, unless conducted by a person in holy orders and according to the State ritual. The punishment for the first offense was a fine of five pounds or three month's imprisonment. For the second offense the punishment was doubled, and for the third offense the culprit was subjected to a fine of a hundred pounds or to banishment for seven years, and every subsequent offense added a hundred pounds to the fine.

Of course such a law could not have been generally enforced, otherwise it would have depopulated the kingdom. But from religious bigotry or a desire to reap a portion of the fine or to wreak vengeance upon a real or fancied enemy, men were found ready to report violations of the law; and the Quakers and other Dissenters suffered terribly for some years. Among other instances, Penn was arrested in 1667 and confined in the Tower for more than eight months, when he was set at liberty by the King. In 1670 he was again arrested under the same act and after some months he was brought to trial. But so ably did he and his fellow prisoner, William Mead, defend themselves that the jury refused to convict though they were sent back with a severe reprimand again and again, and were finally imprisoned themselves because they would not let the Court make their verdict.

James, who had then succeeded his brother, was slow in enforcing this iniquitous act. He interfered frequently by means of his royal prerogative, to mitigate its horrors, and the State Church was displeased with his clemency. It is believed with good reason that his leading object was to protect his Catholic friends; and yet it refused to relieve the dissenters. It is some satisfaction to read that William of Orange, whom the advocates of religious intolerance invited over in order to secure the more rigid enforcement of the



Conventicle Act, no sooner found himself firmly seated on the British throne than he caused the repeal of that odious law and granted universal toleration. But before its repeal that law had worked great injury to England and great corresponding benefit to the American colonies. A few words will explain this.

It is always the most energetic who voluntarily emigrate. The degraded, the debased, the ignorant the imbecile may be banished but they never voluntarily expatriate themselves. Emigration therefore always lessens the energy of the parent stock for the benefit of the new country. This alone would have given the population of America a great advantage in mental efficiency and enterprise over that of the mother country. But the intolerant legislation of the mother country increased this advantage many fold. As a rule the Dissenters of England were neither the very high nor the very low.

They belonged to that great middle class that contains almost all the usefulness of every population. The very low were content to let the State Church do their thinking, and the very high held their position by the combination of Church and State, and their interests required them to support both.

It was impossible to enforce the law against all Dissenters. Indeed it was not every Dissenter that was worth the trouble of a prosecution. But the prominent ones, the leaders, those the prosecution of whom would pay, these were fair and profitable game. A wealthy man, a man of influence among his neighbors, a man who had sufficient mental force and obstinate convictions to make enemies, was sure to be informed against and fined or imprisoned. The consequence was that such men flocked to the new country very rapidly. This built up Puritan New England, Quaker Pennsylvania and Episcopal Virginia. For the State Church was under a cloud during the Protectorate occupying, though in a much less degree, the position of the Dissenters under Charles and James. The master minds that controlled the destinies of America in 1776 were the sons and grandsons of the men whom religious intolerance had driven from England to seek freedom of thought, freedom of speech and freedom of religion in the New World. Indeed it is quite within the bounds of possibility that if it had not been for the Conventicle Act and other similar despotic laws, our country might to-day have been as Canada is, a dependency of Great Britain. So true is it that nations like individuals cannot afford to do a wrong. Retributive justice may be slow, but it is sure. The day of reckoning may be put off, but it cannot be evaded.

For some years Penn had been talking with Algernon Sidney and others of advanced opinions, of a possible Utopia in America. He had been dreaming of a country where kings and priests should be unknown, where rights should be equal, and thought and speech free. He had brooded in prison and out of it over his own wrongs and the wrongs of his fellow Dissenters. As early as 1675 he became interested, partly as owner and partly as agent, in the settlement of western New Jersey. He had counseled and aided emigration there, and the colonists were mostly Quakers who had fled from religious persecution at home. In the meantime the death of his father left him with a large claim against the Crown. The profligate and dissolute Charles, always in want of money, was glad to exchange wild lands three thousand miles away for freedom from this troublesome debt at home. Beside this he knew and esteemed Penn, and had no bad feeling against the Quakers, except such feeling as every monarch who wishes to be absolute, may be presumed to enter against men who do their own thinking. And so the bargain was made and Pennsylvania sprang into being—upon paper. This event occurred on March 4th, 1681.

Charles, or his advisers, seemed to have had a correct appreciation of Penn's mental characteristics; for the charter speaks of his laudable desire to "reduce the savage natives, by just and gentle manners, to the love of civil society and the Christian religion." No words could have better charac-



terized the new proprietary. He was a man of gentle and just manners. The other laudable desire, to provide a place of refuge from the iron heel of the hybrid monster, Church and the State, charter carefully omits to mention.

It is a satisfaction to know that Admiral Penn, long before his death, became reconciled to his son. Though he never left the State Church, he had no sympathy with the persecution of Dissenters, and the more he saw of it, especially in the person of his son, the more his kindly feelings went out toward the oppressed. He especially admired the patience of the Quakers and their forbearance under persecution. He unconsciously adopted their opinions and testimonials, and he looked forward hopefully to the time when they should have their reward in the downfall of priests and kings.

A year and a half from the date of the charter elapsed before Penn was enabled to take possession of his new domain. Many preparations were needed. A frame of government had to be fixed upon. Full access to the bay and ocean had to be secured to the colony. This was done by a grant from the Duke of York, on August 24, 1681, by which he ceded to Penn the town of New Castle and a district of country of twelve miles radius around it, with the islands opposite, north of its lower boundary. The death of his mother, in the meantime, to whom he was tenderly attached, delayed these preparations.

At length, on September 1, 1682, the *Welcome*, a ship of three hundred tons burden, containing Penn and about one hundred of his followers, weighed anchor at Deal; and the colonists bade adieu to the land they still loved through all the wrongs it had inflicted upon them. On the 27th of October, the *Welcome* anchored off New Castle, and the next day the Founder of Pennsylvania landed on the spot in front of us, and took possession of a province nearly as large as England, and assumed control of the only American colony that was established without bloodshed.

It requires some effort of the imagination to conceive what this vicinity was two hundred years ago. Where there are now miles of brick walls and paved streets, a city in all directions, then was the dense wild, interspersed only occasionally with clearings and cabins, mostly along the river shore. A few miles west of us was the "back woods," a term which has travelled toward the setting sun with each generation until it has become lost to the nomenclature of America in the Pacific ocean. Where now the bustle of business, the puffing of steam engines, the thundering of passing railroad trains, and the hum and clatter of the shuttle and spindle confuse the ear with constantly mingling and changing sounds, then were heard the roar, the howl and the shriek of beasts and birds long since extinct in this locality.

All around where we now are was the gorgeous autumn foliage of the oak, the chestnut, the maple, the gum and the dogwood, which are now banished to the streams and hillsides inaccessible to the cupidity of civilized man, or to spots where his good taste or carelessness have left the soil unturned. There were neither streets nor roads, in the proper sense of those terms, in the Province. The first street laid out by legal authority was in 1686. It was on or near the site of Edgmont Avenue, its southern terminus being about Second street. But there were cattle paths, Indian trails and tracks worn by the settlers. Among the chief of these was a tract running parallel to the river and crossing the tributary streams at the head of tide, Chester creek at Upland, Ridley creek at Sharpless' mills, and Crum creek and Darby creek, near where the turnpike road now crosses them. It was called the "King's road" in 1688.

As settlements came to be made at the mouths of the streams, bridges were built there, and the road was changed from time to time to suit the bridges, being called the King's highway or the Queen's highway, according to the sex of the British monarch at the time of the change.

The Delaware was then a much more convenient highway for small boats than now, and much of the travel was done upon it. The western shore was





bold and many of the settlers' huts were built near high-water mark. Each family had its canoe or other small boat moored near the door, ready for all occasions of business or pleasure.

On the southwest bank of Chester creek stood the residence of Robert Wade. It occupied nearly the site of the northwest corner of Penn and Front streets, and its remains were found in digging the foundation of the dwelling house now standing there. It was then, or afterwards, called the Essex House; and what is now Concord Avenue was doubtless Wade's lane, leading in from the woods and probably from the track that crossed the streams at the head of tide. Its course was that of the avenue above Third street, crossing diagonally to the southwest side of Wade's dwelling. It was afterwards opened to public travel and called Essex street, and it is so cited in the early deeds and marked on the early maps. But it had been abandoned and closed long before the Innovators of 1850 awakened Chester from its long slumber.

Chester creek at that time was a noble stream, three or four hundred feet wide at its mouth, admitting vessels of considerable size to land their cargoes a little east of the crossing of Penn and Front streets. The plow and the axe, the turning of the soil, and the destruction of the timber, have loaded the tributaries of the Delaware with earth, sand and gravel which have been largely deposited along its western shore; and the building of wharves and banks has increased and retained the deposit. By this means Chester creek has shrunk to a fraction of its former dimensions, and a wide strip of banked meadow and out-lying marsh skirt the river shore where then vessels of from twelve to twenty feet draft could ride comfortably at anchor at low water. The settler could not now step from his front door to his canoe, but would have a long wade through the mud after crossing hundreds of yards of banked meadow before he could reach sufficient water to float his craft.

Judging from the nature and extent of the deposits, the mouth of Chester creek, on the southwest side, was at that time about the southeast corner of Penn and Front streets. From that point the shore rounded inwards and passed up nearly parallel with Penn street, and from seventy to a hundred feet from it. The actual place of landing was probably about the southeast corner of Penn and Front streets. As late as 1850 the spring tides covered the spot now occupied by the southeast corner of the dwelling house of Dr. J. L. Forwood, and the bottom of the recent deposits sloped rapidly into deep water. The shore was abrupt and vessels of the usual draft could approach within a short distance of it.

Penn was the guest of Robert Wade, and we can easily imagine him, with his friends, being met at the landing by their host and welcomed as the Ruler of the Province. We can also imagine the presence of Indians, to whom the character of Penn was well known, partly through his management of the colony of West Jersey and partly through his cousin and agent, William Markham, who had preceded him by some months, and had communicated to the natives the pacific disposition and kindly intentions of the new Governor. Naturally they would desire to see the white man who would neither kill them nor steal their land.

Penn had provided in his conditions imposed upon the colonists and his concessions to them that an injury done to an Indian should be punished as if it had been done to a white man; and that offences committed by a native should not be avenged by the sufferer, but should be reported to the civil authorities, who should communicate with the offender's king or chief with the view of obtaining satisfaction peaceably.

He provided also equal rights for all men, and secured to the Indians the same privilege to improve their land and provide sustenance for their families which his colonists were to enjoy. He provided that all disputes and differences between men of the different races should be submitted to a jury composed one-half of Indians. In all respects the natives were to be treated as friends and brothers. All paths were to be free and the firesides of each



race were to be open to the friendly visits of the other; and finally the children of each race were to be told of the friendship between the parents, that the chain might grow stronger and stronger and be kept bright and clean as long as the waters run and the sun and moon endure.

What a contrast this affords with the treatment of the natives of the New World by the European invaders of the fifteenth century! The history of the conquest of Mexico and Peru is not fit to be read by any one who wishes to think well of his fellowmen. But may we not look nearer home? The settlement of Virginia and New England was made upon precisely the same principle, though the actors were less brutal and less atrocious. This principle was that the country belonged to the invaders, and that the natives were only tenants by sufferance. The process may be explained in a single paragraph. When a colonist wanted land he took it. If the native resisted he was driven off by force. If he avenged the wrong he was killed; when his tribe took up the quarrel, as was natural, an Indian war ensued, in which blood was shed and deeds of horror perpetrated on both sides. The final result was always in favor of the colonist, who got more land and drove the Indians still farther from the settlements.

Would to Heaven that we could not be pointed to a parallel still nearer home. But truth requires the confession that the same odious principle of the right of the white man to invade, to disposses and exterminate, has characterized the treatment of the Indians from that time until the present; and the process is still going on. When the white man wants land he takes it. If the Indian resists he is driven off by force. If he avenges the wrong he is killed. If his people take up the quarrel, an Indian war ensues, with all its horrors, ending always with the white man taking still more land and driving the Indian still farther toward their "manifest destiny." The only exception to this rule is the case we are now commemorating, which exhibits the single bright page in a very dark history.

The Lenni Lenape has disappeared from the soil of Pennsylvania and from the land of his fathers, but it was through no fault of Penn and his followers. He has been lost in his journey westward in other tribes; but he faithfully carried out his part of the compact. We hear of him on the banks of the western rivers, on the anniversary of the day we celebrate, selecting a spot like that where the Elm stood, and spreading his copy of the Treaty upon the ground, explaining it to the children of his tribe and impressing upon them that the friendship between them and the followers of Penn must be kept inviolate, in the strong language of his race, as long as the sun and moon endure.

The experiment of the Founder of Pennsylvania demonstrated that it was not necessary to exterminate the Indians. There was room enough in the country for them and us too. But to the disgrace of the white man we must admit that he has rarely come in contact with a weaker race except to exterminate or enslave. This may be in accordance with the stern law of "The Survival of the Fittest," and the day when the Indian wrongs shall be avenged may be when the white man shall fall before the advance of a stronger race yet to be.

The success of the experiment certainly would have warranted its repetition and continuance. For seventy years the colony existed in prosperity and profound peace without armies, without vessels of war, without forts, without arsenals. Other colonies were kept in constant dread of what they termed the "merciless savage." But no Quaker ever lost his life by the hand of an Indian; and for forty years no blood was shed on either side. Two years after the death of Penn, the first murder across the line of the races occurred, and the murderer was a white man. His Indian victim was slain under circumstances of peculiar atrocity. Yet so impressed were the Indians with the kindness and justice of the colonial government and the humane teachings of its founder, that they petitioned for the life of the offender to be spared, and it was spared.



But the French and Indian war came on; then followed the American Revolution, and then the colony passed out of the hands of the followers of Penn. In all essentials however, the impress of the hand of the Founder is upon the Constitution of Pennsylvania to day. The absence of a State Church, freedom of conscience in matters of religion, equality of all men under the law and in the making of the law, universal education provided by the State, the equal right of suffrage vested in all freemen, these are elements of Penn's Frame of Government and they have come down to us unchanged. Other Colonies adopted these provisions and they passed into the Constitutions of the several States of the Union. Indeed, that which formed the model from which were taken all our State Governments and the government of the United States was the Frame of Government introduced by William Penn two hundred years ago.

It is much to be regretted that the Founder was not permitted to carry out his original intention of locating in the Province permanently with his family. The condition of the Dissenters in England called for his sympathy and assistance; and the difficulty about his southern boundary having been transferred to the home government for settlement, it became necessary for him to return to England, and he left the colony in October, 1684. In 1685, Charles died and the throne devolved upon his brother James, a man of good intentions, but of narrow and bigoted views.

Penn's influence with James was understood and appreciated by the Dissenters of all persuasions, and he was appealed to on every side and urged to procure a suspension of the cruel and unjust laws. An Act of Parliament, passed in the reign of Elizabeth, was revived against the Dissenters, which inflicted a fine of twenty pounds per month upon all persons who neglected or refused to attend the services of the established Church. This with the Conventicle Act, it was supposed, would reach and coerce every offender worth prosecuting. The crushing weight of this law will be seen when we remember that twenty pounds then equalled about four hundred dollars now, taking into account the difference in the value of money, making forty-eight hundred dollars a year as the cost of exercising a conscientious choice in the manner of worshipping God.

Through the influence of Penn and other men of liberal views, James issued a general pardon of all offenses against these acts, and twelve hundred Quakers alone, besides many persons of other dissenting persuasions were discharged from prison by it. The laws, however, were still in force, and Penn labored until the downfall of James in mitigating their effect upon all sufferers, taking advantage of the fact that James himself was not of the established church, and subjecting himself to some ill-will among his fellow Dissenters by his steady refusal to discriminate against the Catholics. His object was to procure as far as possible, universal freedom of belief and worship. In this he had considerable success, and it is not unlikely that that success contributed to the downfall of the king. Penn was a century in advance of his age. The received opinion at that time was that it was the business of the civil government to compel men to believe right.

Upon the advent of William of Orange, Penn fell under the suspicion of favoring the fortunes of the fallen King, and he was several times arrested, but the most rigid investigation failed to discover a single violation of law or even the smallest suspicion of it. Penn admitted his friendship for James, but denied all idea of assisting him, and even of the possibility of his restoration. He appealed to his past history to shew that what he wanted was universal toleration in matters of religion, and having that under the new king, it would be folly for him to ask the restoration of the old one who, though willing, could not grant it.

At length, in 1699 Penn arrived at Philadelphia, proposing to reside in the colony for the remainder of his days. But the threatened war between France and England led to an attempt to take his Province from him,



and he returned to the mother country to defend the rights of the colonists. In 1701 he took what proved to be a final leave of his colony. This attempt failed through an appeal to the sense of justice of the king. But pecuniary troubles arising from his having spent so much of his fortune in founding the colony, and receiving so little return, and an arrest and imprisonment for an unjust claim on the part of one of his agents, weighed heavily upon him and he became afflicted with paralysis in 1712, from which his mind never fully recovered. He died in 1718, closing an active and unselfish life and leaving a fame that will last as long as the recollection and approval of the great and good shall be a characteristic of the human mind.

Two hundred years have passed away since the landing of the "Welcome" upon the spot before us, and it will be interesting and instructive to inquire what these two hundred years have done for us. The population of Chester at the time of the landing was probably less than a hundred. The taxables five years before numbered sixteen, which would represent a population of less than sixty. Up to 1840 the increase was very slow, the census of that year showing a little over seven hundred. Soon after that date the town took a sudden start, which greatly surprised the older inhabitants. It has now become a great manufacturing city, with a population of twenty-three thousand, including the contiguous Boroughs formed by the overspreading of its boundaries. At the same rate of increase the population at the Tri-Centennial celebration of the landing will exceed twenty-three millions.

It was Penn's original idea to locate his city at Chester. Two causes, however, combined to prevent this. 1. The land was in the possession of settlers some of whom refused to sell and 2, There was some doubt whether or not Chester was within Penn's purchase. The southern limit of that purchase was the fortieth parallel of north latitude, and Chester is south of that parallel. At the granting of the charter, the fortieth parallel was supposed to be at or near the northern boundary of Maryland as ultimately fixed. The possessions of the respective parties substantially determined the line between them, but it was not exactly located until 1765, when it was run and marked by Mason and Dixon.

If Penn could have foreseen how much the shipping would increase in size and draft of water, and how rapidly the river would be encroached upon by the land, he might have given less weight to the considerations that induced him to locate his city above the mouth of the Schuylkill. Already nearly all the shipping that passes Chester has to be taken and returned by tug boats. This, however, is of little importance now. The two cities will soon be one, in fact, so rapidly are they approaching, and Chester will then become the port of entry of Philadelphia.

In 1682 Philadelphia was substantially without inhabitants. In two hundred years it has acquired eight hundred and fifty thousand. In extent of territory it is the largest city in America, and second only to New York in population. In 1682 the population of the entire State could not have exceeded a few hundreds, while now it numbers four millions and a half; and that of the United States has increased from three millions and a half to fifty millions within the last century. In short, from very small beginnings, two hundred years ago, we have become one of the leading nations of the world. All this has been largely owing to our liberal institutions, our exemption from priestly interference in matters of religion and our freedom from the crushing weight of the military systems of Europe.

The inventions and discoveries of the last two centuries have been enormous, both in number and importance, and we have contributed our full proportion. The steamboat, the printing press, the power loom, friction matches, dynamite, the spectroscope, the electric light, anesthetics, are some of the things of which Penn and his cotemporaries knew nothing. If the world could be set back in the use of the forces and materials in Nature's





workshop to where it was in 1682, one-fourth of its population would die of starvation in a year.

An equal progress has been made in moral and social science. We have abolished human slavery in almost the entire civilized world. We have abolished war as a recognized means of settling private disputes and are inventing a civilized mode of settling public ones. We have applied the precepts of Him of Nazareth to the treatment of the waifs and strays of humanity—the pauper, the lunatic and idiot—and have almost discovered that the criminal is the product of social and natural causes, and is to be taken care of kindly for his own good and for the safety of the community. The world moves. Who shall say to what a summit of human perfection the next two hundred years will bring us?

In all the coming years let us remember and celebrate the day and honor the place of our birth as a civil organization, the place where the power of kindness and justice was first recognized and demonstrated as a means of reaching the hearts and regulating the conduct of communities of men; the day upon which the great principles promulgated on the mountain in Judea were applied for the first and only time to the founding of civil government, principles which, after eighteen hundred years, we are only just beginning to see must rule the world. Let us remember that in this place and on that day Christianity was put upon its trial as a rule of human conduct, and that it succeeded. Let us remember that the ground whereon we stand is holy. In passing to us from the hands of those to whom God gave it, in the dim twilight of the past, it was not watered by their blood and tears. Let every son of Pennsylvania treasure up in his heart gratefully and teach his children that the terrible catalogue of crime registered against the white invaders of America has no application to the State that perpetuates the name of William Penn.

The address speaks for itself and needs no words of commendation. The quiet attention with which it was received by those who had the good fortune to be near enough to hear it, was sufficient evidence of its interest. The children sang the Bi-Centennial Ode, composed by Prof. CHARLES F. FOSTER, Superintendent of the Public Schools, and set to music by Prof. JOHN R. SWENEY. It was as follows:

#### THE BI-CENTENNIAL HYMN.

Through a hundred years of toil and strife,  
And a hundred of the nation's life,  
Have the centuries trod with step sublime,  
And are bearing a tale of olden time;  
How the man of the silent song and prayer,  
On the forest-shore of the Delaware,  
In liberty's cause the flag unfurled,  
Which in triumph shall wave o'er the land and the world.

#### CHORUS.

Then a cheer for the Union, grand and great,  
And a hip-hip-hurrah for the Keystone State,  
But a joyful song and a tender prayer  
For the home of Penn by the Delaware.

We honor him who long ago,  
With a brother's love disarmed the foe,  
And a bloodless battle fought and won  
On the famous field of Kensington.  
And now, from the falls of Trenton down  
To the Quaker City, and Chester town,  
The hearts of the people turn with pride  
To the spot which Penn has glorified.

CHO.—Then a cheer, &c.



Now the mountains come to wed the sea .  
At the river shall the meeting be,  
As the ship glides down in stately pride,  
With a lover's kiss to greet the tide;  
And men are toiling with might and main,  
With the sinewy arm, and the busy brain,  
That the breezes of ocean everywhere  
May carry the fame of the Delaware.

CHO.—Then a cheer, &c.

Lol the strength of these two hundred years  
In our giant growth to-day appears;  
For the Quaker's word was a title-deed  
Alike to the Red Man, Dutch and Swede,  
And the old, old message he uttered then,  
Of "Peace on earth, good will to men,"  
Is the gospel of love which shall ever stand  
As the pledge of the nation, the hope of the land.

CHO.—Then a cheer, &c.

After music by the band, followed by the closing prayer by Rev. Thomas Macauley, of the Third Presbyterian Church, the assemblage dispersed, the band playing "William Penn's Grand March," composed by Prof. Sweney, to seek substantial refreshments in the two hours which intervened before the Grand Parade, which was fixed for two o'clock in the afternoon. The guests of the city were entertained at the Chester Republican League House, on Edgmont Avenue. The building was handsomely decorated and its doors thrown hospitably open to the throng of visitors. The dinner was served in excellent style by Mr. Graves, caterer, from Wilmington, Del., and was arranged under direction of the Bi-Centennial Committee on Entertainment and a Committee consisting of William B. Broomall, Thomas I. Leiper, Thomas H. Mirkil, E. S. McKeever, W. Ross Brown and George B. Lindsay, members of the League. There was ample supply of all good things, and the management was admirable. Others of the visitors to the city were entertained at private houses, while the hotels were filled to overflowing with guests.

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### THE AFTERNOON.

The sun shone brightly and long before the time fixed for the Civic, Industrial and Military Parade, the streets were again thronged and every vantage place along the route of march was occupied by those anxious to see the display. They had not long to



wait, for in this, as in every other part of the exercises of the day, the management was as nearly perfect as could be.

Under the able direction of Chief Marshal, Col. W. C. Gray and his efficient Aids, and that of the different Marshals of divisions, the column was promptly formed and moved within a few moments of the appointed time. When it is considered that there were over 6000 men in line, including every kind of civic and industrial display, firemen and military, and that the parade was over an hour passing a given point, it will be seen how much credit was due to the executive ability of Col. Gray and his assistants, and the intelligent co-operation of all the organizations engaged. There was no delay or confusion at any point on the route and from first to last everything moved with the precision of clock work.

The line was formed in the South Ward, at Third and Penn streets, all the streets running north and south of Third street, as far as Kerlin, being filled with organizations intending to participate in the parade, and after everything was gotten in readiness the procession moved, a little after two o'clock, in the following order:

*Chief Marshal*, Col. W. C. Gray. *Aids*, William I. Leiper, John C. Price, J. Howard Lewis, Jr., William H. Green, John B. Hannum, W. H. Osborne, J. P. Crozer, John Lilley, Captain Isaac Johnson, William P. Lodomus, T. Crossley, William G. Price, Robert Anderson, J. H. Cochran, E. P. Hannum, W. T. Dain, H. R. Manley.

**FIRST DIVISION.**—Oglesby's Band, 41 pieces. Chief Tamaquand, Arthur Martin. Aids, Robert Campbell, H. P. Harvey, B. F. Bucha, John Mott, in Indian costume, mounted. Members of the Order of Red Men, in Indian costume, 65 men. Upland Band, 22 pieces. Tuscarora Tribe, No. 29, 75 men; W. B. Lear, Marshal. Frankfield Band, Philadelphia, 22 pieces. Mocoponaca Tribe, No. 149, 70 men; Adam Pierce, Marshal. Ockhoking Tribe, No. 159, Newtown Square, 20 men; Isaiah Massey, Marshal. Delegates from Idaho. Wohasset, Wissahickon, No. 32. Coaquanock, No. 49; Seminole, No. 50; Ponemah Tribes, of Philadelphia. Shawnee Tribe, No. 62, of Philadelphia, 92 men. Rockdale Band, 17 pieces. Leuni Tribe, No. 86, of Rockdale, 48 men; William France, Marshal. W. J. McClure, of York, Great Sachem; Thomas A. McDowell, of Germantown, Great Senior Sagamore; Great Chief of Records, Charles C. Conley; Great Keeper of Wampum, George W. Kreamer, both of Philadelphia; Andrew Zand, of Easton, Great Meshinewa of the Great Council of Pennsylvania; Andrew J. Baker, P. G. I. of U. S., of Philadelphia; Great Guard of the Wigwam, Chas. C. Kambers, of Pittsburg—all of the Great Council of Pennsylvania; also, Great Chief of Records, Joshua Maris, and Great Keeper of Wampum, Joseph Pyle, of the Great Council of the United States, both of Wilmington, in carriages.

**SECOND DIVISION.**—*Marshal*, Charles Sykes. *Aids*, H. Pennell, H. Chadwick, John Marlor, Charles Sharpless, O. C. McClure, John Fullerton, S. W. Logan, John T. Morgan. Guests of the Fire Companies in carriages. Keystone Band, of Philadelphia, 24 pieces. Volunteer Fire Association, of Philadelphia, 19 men; John Welsh, Marshal. Old hand engine. Montgomery Hose, Norristown, 20 men; Norristown Band, 25 pieces. Washington Fire Company, of Conshohocken, 48 men; Miles Stemple, Marshal; hose carriage and steamer; guests in carriages. Centennial Band, Falls of Schuylkill, 29 pieces. Franklin Fire Company, Chester, 110 men; Samuel Harkin, Marshal; hose carriage and steamer; B. B. Welser, John Pennell and William Cowan in a carriage. Kensington Band, 22 pieces. Hanley Hose, Chester, 90 men; Thomas Berry, Marshal; hose carriage and steamer. Womelsdorf Band, 20 pieces. Junior Fire Company, of Reading, 65 men; William Boynton, Marshal; hose carriage and steamer. Altona Band, 25 pieces. Vigilant Fire Company, 52 men, with steamer. Friendship Band, Chester, 20 pieces. Moyamensing Hook and Ladder Company, Chester, 126 men, with truck and wagon containing a representation of "Penn" Cabinet.

**THIRD DIVISION.**—*Marshal*, J. Newton Shanafelt. *Aids*, Stephen L. Armour, D. Traub, Isaac Rodgers, F. B. Bowers, Horace Fairlamb, M. Hatton, John Lindsay, E.



Pennell, D. F. Rose, C. M. Cox. Excelsior Band, Salem, 20 pieces. Larkin Circle, No. 66, B. C., and Good Intent, No. 75, Chester, 125 men. West Grove Band, 20 pieces. St. Agnes Cadets, West Chester, 40 cadets, boys dressed in blue jackets and white pants, carrying axes and flags. St. Michael's T. A. B. Society, Chester, 105 men and 20 pioneers. Immaculate Heart T. A. B. Society, Chester, 40 men. Patriotic Order Sons of America, Chester, 150 men, with band. Scotch Band, James A. C. Dickson pipe major. Caledonian Club, of Philadelphia, 20 men. Robert Burns Club, Chester, 30 men; William McCallum, Marshal. Concordia Band, Philadelphia, 12 pieces. 14 German citizens dressed in costumes, representing burgers, foresters, huzzars and dragons. Germ in Beneficial Society, Chester, 42 men; D. Traub, Marshal. Prussia's first King, Frederick, was represented; also Gaminus and Bacchus, grotesquely dressed, in a wagon. Hull's Band, South Chester, 22 pieces. Industrial Association and Hod Carriers' Union, 45 men.

FOURTH DIVISION.—*Marshal*, Samuel Starr, M. D. *Aids*, Dr. C. C. V. Crawford, H. A. Eisenbise, Dr. Theodore S. Christ. Metropolitan Band, Philadelphia, 25 pieces. Cadets P. M. A., 170 rifles; Captains Duval, R. K. Carter, B. F. Morley and C. E. Hyatt commanding. Drum Corps, Company H, 6th Reg., Media, 35 rifles; Captain Jess M. Baker. Wild Post Fife and Drum Corps, Chester, 20 pieces. Wilde Post, No. 25, G. A. R., Chester, 80 men; Joel Hollingsworth commander. Bradbury Post, No. 149, Media; Samuel Crozier commander. Smyth Post Drum Corps. General Smyth Post, No. 1, Wilmington, 70 men; T. A. Keables commander. Charles Sumner Post, Wilmington, 75 men. John Brown Post, Chester; Robert Auler commander. First Regiment Band, Wilmington, 20 pieces. Company B, 6th Reg., 60 men, in command of Capt. F. G. Sweeney and Lieuts. Sparks and Campbell. Carriages containing Hon. William Ward, Benjamin Gartside and Samuel Riddle, the two oldest and largest manufacturers in Delaware county; Major D. R. B. Nevin, of Ridley Park; H. G. Ashmead, W. Ross Brown, H. B. Black, President of City Council; Rev. Thomas Kelley, Rev. George C. Moore, Joseph McAlldon, Andrew Hudson, John W. Martin Burgess of North Chester; Henry C. Shock, Edward S. McKeever, George B. Lindsay, Col. David F. Houston, Major Joseph K. T. Coates, Orlando Harvey, Samuel Oglesby and Henry Riddle.

FIFTH DIVISION.—*Marshal*, G. P. Denis. *Aids*, C. Peters, Jr., E. S. Worrell, William Irving, James Field, G. G. Leiper, William Shaw, E. Irving, Sumner Esrey, C. W. Andrews. Harmony Band, of Thurlow, 18 pieces. Steamship City of Tokio. Chester Rolling Mills, 400 men, with puddling furnace and hammer; T. J. Houston, Marshal. Penn and companions; Bridgewater display of zephyrs; E. R. Worrell, oil cloths; Wilcox & White, organs; Hester Dock Mills, zephyrs and calicoes; E. D. Sparks & Co., belts, etc.; Joseph Messick, furniture; E. M. Bruce & Co., Estey organs; J. A. Cardwell, furniture; Great National Tea Company; G. P. Denis, cassimeres, etc.; Broad Street Mills, colored goods, and 30 men dressed in the ticking made at the mill, William B. Stevens, Marshal; James Bowers & Son, cotton and wool, in bales; John Armitage tar, etc.; Chester City Stove Works; D. S. Bunting, 6 coal wagons; The Irving & Leiper Manufacturing Co., cotton in bales, etc.; Powhatan Mills, No. 3, cloths; South Chester High Flyers; Lewis, Kurtz & Co., groceries; F. O. Goodwin, lightning rods; J. S. Schlanka, bread; Model of the old Penn house at Upland; Crozer's Upland Mills; Lukens & Compton, dry goods, etc.; O. T. Pancoast, printing press work; Griffith & Co., furniture; M. Oelchtree, carriages; smith shop; Springville Mills.

SIXTH DIVISION.—*Marshal*, Charles Cavanaugh. *Aids*, W. H. Graham and Joseph Waddell. Kelleyville Band, 20 pieces. William Penn, in a barouche, F. D. Graham. Butchers mounted, 149 men, wearing white smock, high hat and blue sash. George Wunderlich and William Worrell, the oldest butchers in Delaware county, in carriages. Burk & Stewart's wagons; Thomas Johnson's wagon; Edward Firth's wagon; six mounted men.

The parade was one of the largest ever witnessed in Delaware County as well as the most orderly and well managed. The procession moved up Third to Market, to Fifth, to Morton avenue, to Broad, to Madison, to Twelfth, to Edgmont, to Seventh, to Kerlin, to Third, to Broomall, countermarching on Third to Kerlin, to Second, to Penn, to Third and dismissed.

Some of the important features of the different divisions may be noticed as follows:

In the first division the different tribes of the organization known





as Red Men received deservedly a great deal of applause for their appearance and excellent deportment. They composed the entire division and with invited guests made a very fine display.

The second division, composed entirely of firemen, elicited much admiration for their gentlemanly bearing and good marching. The Volunteer Fire Association, of Philadelphia, drew after them an engine with a history. It was a small, stoutly built machine of wood, with a single pipe, capable of throwing a stream thirty feet. It was built in England and brought to this country in 1748, and was presented in 1866, to the William Penn Hose and Steam Fire Company, No. 18, by the Ex-Union and Slambank Company, of Salem, Mass. Three months ago the Penn Company gave it to the Volunteer Fire Association. The engines and carriages of the different companies were very tastefully decorated with garlands of flowers and flags. The men looked and marched well, and while expressing admiration for the appearance of the visiting companies, it must be said that our own firemen were not a whit behind them in any point.

The third division was a most interesting one, composed chiefly of the resident and visiting T. A. B. Associations and civic organizations. Larkin Circle, No. 66 and Good Intent Circle, No. 75, B. U. were conspicuous, and the Caledonian Club, of Philadelphia, and Robert Burns Club, of Chester, with the Scotch band, were the recipients of much flattering notice. The T. A. B. societies turned out in large numbers and our German fellow citizens were a marked feature in this division.

In the fourth division the Pennsylvania Military Academy Cadets, Companies B, of Chester, and H, of Media, 6th Reg. N. G. P., and Post Wilde, No. 25, G. A. R., with visiting posts were much admired and formed certainly a very important part of the parade.

In the fifth division all the different trades were represented, and some of the designs were novel and interesting, notably those of G. P. Denis, Shaw, Esrey & Co., J. Wm. Lewis & Co., Irving & Leiper, and James Stevens. The latter, besides having a wagon filled with ticking, had thirty men in line dressed in suits of the same material, cut by Robert Adams & Co., of Philadelphia, and they attracted much attention. The men were in command of W. T. Seth, captain, and J. K. Knott, lieutenant, and were drilled on the



street. The model of the steamship "City of Tokio," from Roachs' ship yard, was wreathed in flowers, and was drawn by four stout horses. It attracted much attention. The masts were too high to pass under Seventh street bridge, consequently the ship had to be taken around to Seventh and Penn streets, where it rejoined the parade. The model of the Pusey House at Upland, built in 1683, put in line by the Messrs. Crozer, was an attractive feature. The butchers held a position of honor in the sixth division, the rear of the line, and were a fitting conclusion to a procession of upwards of six thousand men.

The Volunteer Fire Association, of Philadelphia, were the guests of the Chester Fire Department; the Vigilant, of Altoona, and the Junior, of Reading, the guests of the Hanley; the Washington, of Conshohocken, and the Montgomery Hose, of Norristown, the guests of the Franklin. All were cared for by the above companies. The West Chester Temperance Cadets, and the visiting T. A. B. societies were the guests of St. Michael's. They were handsomely entertained at the latter's room over the Post Office. Post Wilde received two hundred visitors and lunched them in Thomas' Hall. The Red Men had a great many visitors whom they entertained most hospitably and concluded the day's festivities by a ball given in Armory Hall, which was largely attended and enjoyed to the utmost.

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#### THE EVENING.

In the evening a fine display of fireworks took place at the corner of Ninth and Parker streets, which was witnessed by a great many people. The display was arranged by Prof Jackson, under the direction of the Sub-Committee on Fireworks and was, like all the rest of the celebration a success in every way. Every thing went off on time and to the general satisfaction.

Throughout the day, from beginning to end, nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of the occasion and everything moved as smoothly as if Delaware County had been in the habit of celebrating Bi-Centennials every year. There was no disorder and very little drunken-



ness, if indeed, any that could be fairly called so at any time during the day or evening. All were determined to make the day a pleasant one and the citizens of Chester and Delaware County may well feel satisfied with and proud of the manner in which the Bi-Centennial anniversary of the landing of William Penn on the shores of Pennsylvania, was observed in Chester.





## FINAL WORK OF GENERAL COMMITTEE.

*Monday, November 13, 1882.*

**T**HIS evening a final meeting of the Penn Bi-Centennial Committee of Chester was held in Council Chamber, Chairman Barton presiding. There was a fair attendance and the Committee proceeded at once to settle up its affairs. The first report was by the Finance Committee, Dr. R. P. Mercer, Chairman, who made the following statement of the collections:

Pennsylvania Railroad Company.....	\$500 00	J. A. Wallace, South Ward .....	24 00
Phila., Wil. & Balt. R. R. Co.....	250 00	J. H. Kerlin, Lower Chichester .....	10 00
R. P. Mercer, South Ward & Upland	313 00	Ellwood Hannum, Concord .....	8 75
D. C. Abrams, Radnor .....	250 00	William Rhodes, Newtown.....	8 00
W. H. Eves, North Ward.....	203 50	Prof. C. F. Foster .....	10 00
Richard Miller, North Ward.....	173 00	John Roach .....	100 00
W. J. McDowell and G. O. Yarnall,		Eddystone Manufacturing Co.....	50 00
South Chester .....	168 00	William Simpson & Son.....	50 00
I. H. Mirkil, Middle Ward .....	133 00		
B. F. Baker, Middle Ward .....	103 50	Total by Finance Committee.....	\$2,569 75
C. S. Esrey, North Chester.....	75 00	Proceeds from sale of lumber in	
B. M. Custer, Ridley .....	40 00	stands.....	105 75
William H. Martin, North Ward.....	25 00	School Board, for music stand.....	15 00
Samuel Rhodes, Aston .....	25 00		
H. R. Manley, Media .....	25 00	Total .....	\$2,690 50
J. Hunter Moore, Marple .....	25 00		

The amount, \$2,690.50, is exclusive of \$400 appropriated by City Council for entertainment, which would make \$3,090.50 entire receipts.

The report was accepted and on motion of H. B. Black, the thanks of the Committee tendered the Finance Committee for their successful labors.

The report of the Secretary was then read, showing \$2,690.50 received by the Finance Committee, and appropriations amounting to \$1,767.51 paid, leaving a balance of \$922.99, which the Executive Committee recommended be appropriated to the different societies





having visitors, and to defray the cost of erecting stands and others expenses. This absorbed the entire amount contributed, and settled up the affairs of the Committee in a satisfactory manner to all

The Chairman, Mayor Barton, took occasion to thank the members of the Committee for the hearty co-operation extended to him and all the officers of the Committee.

On motion of D. M. Johnson a vote of thanks was tendered H. G. Ashmead, Wm. Shaler Johnson and other members of the Historical Committee for their valuable services.

Dr. Mercer then moved that a vote of thanks be tendered the Secretary, J. Craig, Jr., for his services. D. M. Johnson moved to amend by extending the same courtesy to the Chairman, Mayor Barton, and Treasurer, H. B. Black, which was adopted; and the motion, as amended, passed.

The Committee then adjourned *sine die*.

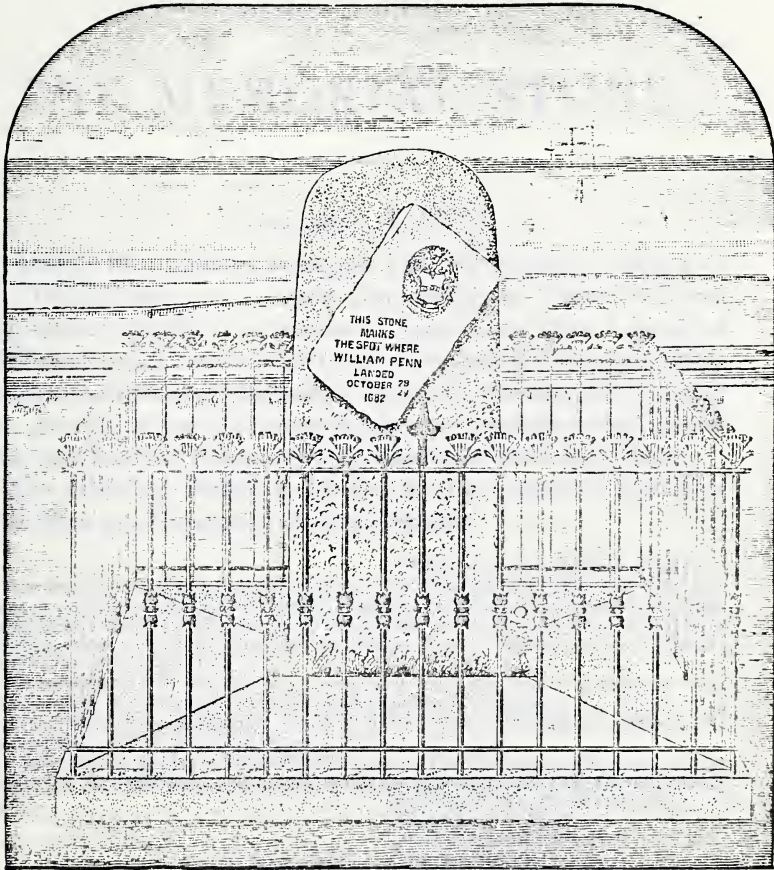
This meeting in the business like simplicity and brevity which marked it formed a very fitting conclusion to the work of the General Committee. Where all was done so intelligently and efficiently it may seem invidious to draw special notice to any Sub-Committee or individual, but it must be acknowledged that to the trying and often self-sacrificing efforts of the Chairman of the Finance Committee, and those of its members who actively interested themselves in the object, and to the Chairman and members of the Executive Committee, whose duties were discharged with exceptional impartiality and tact, is due in a large degree the success which attended the work of the General Committee.



UNVEILING OF THE  
MEMORIAL STONE,

*November 9th, 1882.*





THE PENN MEMORIAL STONE.



## THE MEMORIAL STONE.

*November 9, 1882.*

CERTAIN gentlemen connected with the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Penn Club wishing to celebrate in some appropriate way the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Landing of William Penn, it was decided to do so by placing a Memorial Stone at the actual spot where the landing occurred in Chester (then Upland,) the planting of trees and a few simple commemorative observances. The time fixed for the occasion was the 9th of November, 1882.

The following circular was issued by the gentlemen signing it who acted as a Committee of Arrangements :

PHILADELPHIA October 31, 1882.

It is intended to celebrate on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 1882, under the auspices of a number of gentlemen, chiefly members of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Penn Club, the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the first landing of William Penn, within the bounds of the present State of Pennsylvania, at Chester, on October 28th, 1682, O. S.

The ceremonies will consist in the setting of a Memorial Stone on the place where Penn landed, the planting of trees, and a commemorative address.

At the close of the ceremonies, the party is invited to a luncheon at Codnor Farm, the residence of Col. Frank M. Etting.

A special train will leave Broad Street Station of the Pennsylvania Railroad, at 9.30 o'clock, A. M., precisely, and will return in the afternoon, reaching Broad Street at 5.30.

P. PEMBERTON MORRIS,  
LLOYD P. SMITH,  
JOHN CADWALADER,  
ISAAC MYER,  
CHARLES CHAUNCEY,

*Committee.*

The names of those from Philadelphia accepting the invitation were as follows :

P. Pemberton Morris,  
Charles J. Stille,  
Robert Pearsall Smith,  
Charles Chauncey,  
George M. Conarroe,  
Charles H. Hutchinson,

Cadwalader Biddle,  
Samuel R. Shipley,  
John A. Clark,  
Dr. Thomas Wistar,  
E. Hunn Hanson,  
Benjamin G. Godfrey,





Frederick Brown,  
 J. M. Power Wallace,  
 W. Moylan Lansdale,  
 George Crump, H. B. M. Vice Consul.  
 Thompson Westcott,  
 Louis C. Madeira,  
 L. Logan Smith,  
 John A. McAllister,  
 John Biddle Porter,  
 Stuart Wood,  
 Lloyd P. Smith,  
 Samuel Chew,  
 John Cadwalader,  
 Charles M. Morris,  
 George Blight,  
 Henry S. Lowber,  
 Samuel Wetherill,  
 Isaac Myer,  
 Samuel J. Sharpless,  
 Robert W. Smith,  
 Dr. James J. Levick,  
 Thomas Stewardson,  
 E. Dunbar Lockwood,  
 Robert Coulton Davis,

Clifford P. MacCalla.  
 Thomas Meehan,  
 Macgregor J. Mitcheson,  
 Charles S. Keyser,  
 Justice Cox, Jr.,  
 Charles H. Cramp,  
 Edward Wetherill,  
 Charles W. Alexander,  
 Edward R. Wood,  
 R. Francis Wood,  
 Craig D. Ritchie,  
 Samuel L. Smedley,  
 Jacob E. Barr,  
 J. M. Stoddart,  
 R. M. McWade,  
 B. Frank Clapp,  
 C. H. A. Esling,  
 William B. Smith,  
 James Bateman,  
 J. Sergeant Price,  
 Eli K. Price, Jr.,  
 Henry T. Coates,  
 Howard M. Jenkins,  
 Robert Lapsley Pyle,  
 and Roose Jafirn from the Hague.

The morning of the Ninth of November dawned brightly and was succeeded by a pleasant autumn day. At half past nine the gentlemen above mentioned took a special train on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and after an enjoyable ride of half an hour reached Chester. Here they were received in a very informal way by His Honor Mayor Barton and the City Council, with a number of the prominent citizens of the town and escorted to the ground, foot of Penn street, near the residence of Ex-Mayor J. L. Forwood. Col. Frank M. Etting, of Concordville, a gentleman who had taken much interest in the success of this celebration, met the party at the depot, as did also other residents of Delaware county.

The Memorial Stone had been erected on the Eighth of November, the preceding day, and was covered with the National flag. Permission had been previously obtained from the city authorities and the owners of the adjacent property to place the stone on and within the curb line, on the northerly side of Front street, which would bring it within a few feet of the actual place where William Penn landed. The stone was of granite about five feet high and three feet by two feet at the base, weighing over two tons. On the northern or inner face was a marble tablet on which was cut the Coat of Arms of Penn and the words, "This Stone marks the spot where William Penn landed October 28—29, 1682."



The stone, which was designed by John Struthers, of Philadelphia, was set upon a foundation of solid masonry, five feet square and three feet deep, the whole resting upon two thicknesses of heavy planks laid transversely

Upon reaching the ground the party found a large number of spectators assembled, and all were soon gathered about the stone.

Mr. CHARLES S. KEYSER, as Director of the Ceremonies, then said :

*Citizens of Philadelphia and Chester :*

The Committee by whom this Memorial Stone has been set here, has requested me to say that the ceremonies arranged for the occasion will consist of a transfer of the Memorial Stone and the planting of three trees beside it, so as to mark the spot where the Founder of our State first set his foot on the soil of his province of Pennsylvania, this day, two hundred years ago. The Committee will tender this granite record to the city of Chester, to be kept in the care of its authorities and citizens, in grateful remembrance of an event of such great import to humanity. They first desire me to request Rev. Henry Brown, D. D., Rector of St. Paul's, the oldest historic church in Chester, to ask the Divine blessing upon what shall here be done.

Rev. Dr. BROWN offered the following prayer :

Almighty God our Heavenly Father, who dost govern all things in Heaven and earth, we desire to recognize Thy good providence, which hath been over us from the beginning of our existence to the present hour. We thank Thee for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life, for the means of grace and for the hope of glory.

We bless Thee that the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places, and for the privileges we enjoy as citizens of this renowned Commonwealth, protected in our civil and religious rights, under wise and just laws, giving to every man freedom of speech and liberty of conscience, with none to make us afraid. And while we acknowledge with gratitude, O Lord, our indebtedness to Thee for the mercies we enjoy, may we not forget how much we owe to the fathers who preceded us, and especially to Thy honored servant, the Proprietor and first Governor of the great State of Pennsylvania, who based his government upon those principles of truth and righteousness which are the only sure foundations of States and kingdoms, and upon which Thy favor and blessing may be expected.

We come this day to rear a monument to William Penn—who two hundred years ago landed on this spot—that it may remind us, our children and our children's children of the good deeds, and useful life, the integrity and uprightness of one who ruled in Thy fear, under guidance of Thy Spirit, for the welfare of his fellow men.



And now, our Father, as we know that except the Lord build the house, they labor but in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain; we beseech Thee to look favorably upon our present work, and preserve this monument from harm and destruction, that it may long stand a tribute of grateful praise to the memory of him whom we thus delight to honor, and when the waste of time and the ravages of storms shall sweep over it, and it shall be ten ling to decay, as all earthly things must, may others be found to revive and restore it, so that in future generations many may rise up to call him blessed, who sought to promote peace on earth and good will to men. And now, O God of our fathers, take us all under Thy protecting care and love, this State and nation; our rulers and our whole people; direct us in all our doings, and further us with Thy continued help; enable us all faithfully to discharge our duties, and grant us Thy peace upon earth, and save us at last in Thy kingdom in Heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

After a few minutes of impressive silence Mr. Keyser said:

CHARLES J. STILLE, LL.D., will now, on behalf of the Committee, tender this Memorial Stone to the city and citizens of Chester.

Dr. Stille said:

*Mr. Mayor and Citizens of Chester:*

I have been asked to take the place of the Mayor of Philadelphia (who is necessarily absent) in performing the simple but pleasant duty of presenting this Monumental Stone to the city of Chester. You are happy, Mr. Mayor, in having within your jurisdiction the very spot on which William Penn, the great founder and law-giver of a Commonwealth, now numbering more than five millions of people not surpassed in prosperity and general intelligence by an equal number on the earth's surface, first landed when he came to these shores. The donors of this monument, many of whom are the descendants of the friends and companions of Penn, wish to place upon this spot a lasting memorial of the great event and they intrust it to your care and custody, not doubting that you in common with all Pennsylvanians, will take pride in preserving such a land mark.

We are all citizens of a State whose population unlike that of many of the old thirteen, is of a somewhat composite character, many races of people having contributed their share to make it what it is. Before William Penn was born we had on this very spot the loyal, God-fearing Swedes and their tolerant spirit and their merciful treatment of the Indians; then the Dutch who though conquerors of the Swedes lived afterwards in perfect harmony with them. These prepared the way for the great work of Penn, which must be considered as absolutely unique in the annals of history. Then we had the Germans, sturdy Protestants of the Palatinate and



Swabia, who have given to the State any conservatism which was lacking in the Quaker element, and lastly that great race, the Scotch-Irish settled like our own Alleghenies from Northeast and Southwest, and forming at all periods of our history the moral, as our mountains do the physical, back bone of the Commonwealth.

All these races join to-day within our border, with the universal sentiment of christendom, in honoring the memory of William Penn. It was his character that shaped our destiny, and the spirit of his laws more than any thing else which has made us one people. To-day as we try to recall the scene of his landing here and think how friendly Swedes and Dutch and Indians met him on a day like this, when the soft breeze and the hazy light of the Indian summer made him feel that he had found in very deed a new world, then think upon all the blessings of the last two hundred years, let us be thankful, striving to cherish his memory and follow his example.

On the conclusion of Dr. Stille's remarks the drapery covering the stone was removed by William Shaler Johnson amid applause, and then Mr Keyser said :

His Honor JAMES BARTON, Jr., the Mayor of Chester, will represent the City and citizens on this occasion. I have the honor to introduce him to this assemblage.

Mayor Barton said :

*Gentlemen representing the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and the Penn Club of Philadelphia :*

In conformity to the purposes of your organization to preserve to posterity the landmarks and valuable historical facts connected with the history of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, you have caused this Memorial Stone to be set upon the spot where William Penn, its founder, landed.

In the name of the City of Chester I accept it from your hands, and in doing so I beg to assure you that we shall endeavor to guard it from vandalism, and protect it, to the extent of our power, from the ravages of the elements. But although it may crumble so that the generations that come after us may not even recognize this spot, the influence of the teachings of William Penn's character and writings will continue to roll down the centuries gathering strength from time and continually, though silently, leading men to higher and nobler aspirations.

Gentlemen, I extend to you a cordial welcome to our city.

Mayor Barton having thus accepted the memorial on behalf of the city government, Mr. Keyser introduced the Hon. WILLIAM WARD, Representative in Congress from this District, who spoke as follows, representing the citizens at large in his address:





*Dr. Stille*.—His Honor, Mayor Barton, in fitting language has given you official welcome to Chester, and accepted this Memorial Stone into the custody of the municipality. I have been delegated, as the representative of the great body of people at large, to express to you and to the other gentlemen contributors of the Historical Society and the Penn Club—the high appreciation felt by our citizens for this magnificent memorial; and their pleasure in being permitted by your invitation to join in the ceremonies.

We have long known of your societies as the industrious and faithful chroniclers of the traditions and history of the State; always forward in every movement that promised its advancement. You have given us here a new evidence of your spirit.

What a scene surrounds us and what memories does it create. Looking back through the vista of years—on this spot at this moment—the Present and the Past are before us. Look at the myriad white-winged messengers of commerce; behold the black smoke of the blast furnace, the rolling mill and foundry; listen to the clang of the hammers in the shipyard, and the hum of the looms and spindles in the factories that surround us on every side; see above us the telegraph wires bearing intelligence with a lightning flash; we are standing on the iron rails that form part of a railroad system thousands of miles in length, carrying the iron and coal from the far off mountains to the waters' edge. Read in all these living signs now in your vision the history of centuries of progress. All has changed from this day two hundred years ago, when William Penn landed on this spot. No, all is not changed; the same sky and the same sun are over us, and the same river that brought him to the landing place, to-day flows on in the same channel to the sea. The small party composed of the settlers of different nationalities and of Indians that surrounded William Penn on this spot two hundred years ago, was vastly different from the large assemblage I now look upon, but both are alike in the characteristics of loyalty to country and Commonwealth and devotion to the rights of civil and religious liberty for all men.

Gentlemen of the Historical Society. In the letter read at your banquet last night from Tennyson, the Poet Laureate, he described William Penn to be “no comet of a season, but the fixed light of a dark and graceless age shining on into the present—a good man and true.”

The glow of that light is shining around us at this moment, and let us here resolve that the observance of the principles of the Founder—which have made the Keystone State great and glorious—shall continue imperishable as this sky and sun under which he pronounced them on that day centuries ago, and implanted deep as the bed of the river on the bank of which he then stood where we are gathered.



Dr. Stille. The Mayor has assured you that this Stone will be zealously cared for by the authorities of Chester. I let me assure you that it will have a surer and more sacred guard in the affections of our people. There will be no brighter page in the Archives of your Society than the one which records the beauty of the sentiment and the grace of the presentation which will make this spot marked by this Stone hereafter a Mecca, within the borders of the city of Chester, for the pilgrimage of the high appreciation of the liberty-loving, law-abiding and intelligent people.

The address of Hon. William Ward concluded the first part of the exercises and Mr. Keyser then spoke as follows :

In pursuance of an ancient custom the Committee now propose to plant three trees in memory of three men notably connected with the Founder's time and memory. The first of these men, as the most nearly connected with his work here, was James Logan. To the Founder he was the friend and companion—he was his representative after his departure—holding, as their friend, the Founder's place with them to the hour of his death. So dear to them he was that when he was himself sinking under sickness, they said "when he dies may God send us just such another."

I now call upon his descendant, Mr. LLOYD P. SMITH, to perform this grateful duty.

Mr. Smith, taking the tree, a linden, and setting it in its place, said :

*Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen :*

I have little or nothing to add to the very fitting words in which my friend Dr. Stille, on the part of the contributors, has dedicated this monument. His ancestors, like my own, were resident on the banks of the Delaware before William the Conqueror—if you will allow me so to designate him who conquered all hearts, and whose victories are more renowned than those of war—here set his foot. The Stille's of Upland and the Smith's of Burlington gave a welcome to the good ship Welcome and her precious freight. In their turn William Penn and his followers gave a welcome to the Welsh, the Mennonites, the Scotch-Irish, the United Brethren, the Schwenkfelders, the Irish and the Huguenots. The learned orator has told you how the mingling of these diverse though kindred elements has made Pennsylvania what it is. But there was another element, small, it is true, but most valuable, which should not be forgotten. I mean the New England element. The presence of Napoleon on the field of battle was said to be worth ten thousand men to the French army. It would be hard to say how much the presence of Franklin in Philadelphia added to the might of our native State. His manly, original and active mind; his extraordinary aptitude for affairs; his common



sense carried to the point of genius. his persevering patriotism have left undying traces on the history of this Commonwealth. I have nothing but Quaker blood in my own veins and I venerate the memory of the Quaker Founder of this State as much as any man, but I say they were too unworldly. Our dear old Commonwealth, with all the virtues of its founders, needed, it may be, the infusion of a more virile element and that it found mainly in the Scotch-Irish, but from the time of Franklin to the present day the men of New England, in small numbers, have been a most useful, a most valuable part of the population of Pennsylvania. We all remember Samuel Breck, the philanthropist, the legislator, the historian; the Ingersolls, the Binneys, the Chaunceys are still with us, and I see around me some of New England blood whom I will not name—one of them a descendant of Roger Williams, whom you all love and respect. Let us then on that Pennsylvania soil where two hundred years ago the treaty with the Indians was entered into by our great Founder, where one hundred years ago the Continental Congress made another treaty between Sovereign States, let us on this ever memorable occasion make a final treaty of peace with all our brethren. United at heart it needs no prophetic eye to discern that this nation will soon hold the destinies of the world in its hand.

Gentlemen, the Committee has asked me to plant a tree here in memory of James Logan, sometime Chief Justice of this Province, and the friend of Penn. The proper person to perform that duty is my worthy cousin Albanus C. Logan of Stenton, the hereditary Trustee and Librarian of the Logonian Library under the will of the Founder and the Act of Assembly of 1792; but as he is not here to-day, I will ask one who bears the name, my nephew, Lloyd Logan Smith, to help me in this pious task.

I plant this tree in the name of James Logan, the Founder of the first free public Library, and I pray God, who alone giveth the increase, to bless the tree and to keep his memory green.

Mr. Keyser, introducing Mr. Justice Cox, Jr., said:

The second of these trees (an elm) the committee purpose to plant in remembrance of Captain Lasse Cock, as he wrote his name (Lawrence Cock,) a Swedish gentleman, as the Upland Records determine him to have been, and very notable in his time. He was the interpreter for the first settlers and the interpreter for the Founder in his great Treaty with the Indians at Shackamaxon. His descendant is with us; he represents a long and honorable line, and I call upon him, Mr. Justice Cox, Jr., to plant the second tree in his ancestor's memory.

Mr. COX, placing the tree in position, spoke as follows:

*Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:*

I am proud to be here to-day as a descendant of the Swedes who were here to welcome William Penn and his party when they land-



ed on these shores—to be here to testify to the love he had for the Swedes as his friends; and you will remember that history records that the Swedes formed his body-guard, and when he returned to England he sent his love to Peter Kock and Rambo, the two Swedes whom he remembered as his good friends when he landed on the Delaware. The Swejes, like the Quakers of those days, lived in friendship with the Indians, and never were known to do any unfair act to them. This was remembered by the Indians for many years after William Penn and the Swedes had gone to their long home. With all these memories in my mind to-day I now plant this tree, and I hope as it grows and becomes green in the returning summer, that it will be a fresh landmark to keep in our memories and those of our children the return of this day and all that it has brought to us and to them.

Before the earth was thrown in about the roots of this tree, Mr. Robert Coulton Davis, of the Antiquarian and Numismatic Society of Pennsylvania, deposited among them four medals—one commemorative of the Landing of William Penn, one of the Treaty with the Indians at Shackamaxon and two of the Bi-Centennial.

Mr. KEYSER then said:

The third tree (an ash) the committee propose to plant in memory of Anthony Morris, a follower of the Founder and himself the founder of a family beloved and esteemed in all the vicissitudes of war and peace through which the Province and the State have passed during the two centuries since he came. In the absence of Mr. Phineas Pemberton Morris, I call upon Mr. Samuel Chew, of Germantown, to pay this tribute to the memory of a noble man

Mr. CHEW, holding the ash in the place prepared for it, spoke as follows:

*Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:*

You have conferred a great and unexpected honor in calling upon me to take an active part in the Commemoration of the Landing of William Penn at Upland two centuries ago. The gentlemen who have preceded me have said so much of the past, and spoken so happily of its worthies who came with Penn, who welcomed Penn and who followed Penn and became, as it were, one with Penn, that I am sure you feel that nothing need be added to what they have said, and that you will permit me to say a few words to connect the past with the future

You have already heard of Anthony Morris as an early follower of William Penn and his trusted friend. He was a good man. "Ye shall know them by their fruits." His children through all these generations have earned distinction and are to-day prominent in nearly every field of honorable and useful effort. In his memory I





plant this tree with the wish that it will grow and flourish and help to keep fresh and green in the minds of you and your children the commemoration we celebrate this day. I know that it can last but a few generations at most, and that it may be blasted by the severity of the coming winter, but I have no such fear for the recollection of you and your posterity of the Founder of this great Commonwealth and of his great characteristics—justice, piety and liberality—and I have no doubt but that these memories will incite and stimulate you and yours for countless ages in the future, as they have in the past, to imitate his virtues.

Among the roots of this tree one of the Bi-Centennial medals of Chester was placed by Mr. William Shaler Johnson, and when the planting was finished Mr. KEYSER said:

We have heard the representatives of the first Swedish settlers and the representatives of the Founder's followers. Permit me now, gentlemen, to introduce to you one who represents a Swedish ancestry, settled on the Delaware in 1638, and a Quaker ancestry which settled in New Jersey contemporaneously with the arrival of William Penn. The committee have requested Mr. George M. Conarroe to address you and to read also a letter received from John G. Whittier. It is an interesting feature of the last two observances of our Bi-Centennial that the Historical Society of Pennsylvania should have received a letter from Alfred Tennyson,\* the Laureate of the Crown under whose title our Founder came here, and this Committee a letter from the Laureate of that whole brotherhood of humanity whose first forward steps were made by our Founder in the government he established under that Crown.

Mr. CONARROE said :

*Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:*

I have been requested to read a letter from our distinguished Quaker poet, John G. Whittier, expressing his interest in our celebration to-day, written to my old friend Colonel Etting, and to say a few words. Mr. Whittier's letter refers in eloquent language to

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\* 86 EATON SQUARE, LONDON, S. W., March 3, 1882.

*My Friends:*—I would have written ere this to thank you for the honor you have done me by asking me to write a few verses on the celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Founding of Pennsylvania, but I have had the gout in my right hand and writing was impossible, and just now it seems to me that a verse upon anything is beyond my powers, but does that matter much while you have your noble old Longfellow still among you and other poets who might be more likely than myself to give you a strain that would not fall below the subject. I do not say that I may not make the attempt, but I cannot promise you anything except that I will be with you in spirit on the 8th of November and rejoice with your rejoicing, for since I have been unwell I have read Hepworth Dixon's life of your countryman and mine, William Penn, and find him as there portrayed no comet of a season, but the fixed light of a dark and graceless age shining on into the present, a good man and true.

Believe me, yours very heartily,

A. TENNYSON.



our great Founder, and his sentiments of admiration are those in which we all heartily join. His letter is as follows:

OAK KNOLL, DANVERS, Mass., 10 mo., 8, 1882.

FRANK M. ETTING, Esq.

*My dear Friend:*—It is hardly possible for me to do more than send this greeting of my hearty sympathy with your celebration on the spot where William Penn first trod the New World, two centuries ago. What you propose on that occasion commends itself to my sense of what is due to the character and work of the great Founder of Pennsylvania. As the world wheels slowly but surely into the light and liberty which he anticipated in advance of his generation, it will more and more honor and revere the memory of a Christian and lawgiver, wiser and greater than those of Greece and Rome.

Thy friend,

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

Reference has been made by some of the previous speakers to the composite character of the population of Pennsylvania. I may refer to the fact that this population has also been, more especially in Philadelphia, which for over a hundred years was not only the chief city of the Delaware but of this country, recruited largely from the families of the best settlers of our sister States of New Jersey and Delaware. At the time of William Penn's landing the settlements did not extend far back into the interior, but were principally clustered along and near the banks of the noble river now before us, and the inhabitants formed a friendly and almost homogeneous population, without much regard to present State lines. The territory comprising the present State of Delaware was long known simply as the Lower Counties on Delaware—New Castle, Kent and Sussex. Some of my ancestors used to cross the river in open boats from Penn's Neck, near Salem, to attend the church, built as early as 1667, at the mouth of Christina creek—which stood, as Ferris tells us, on a beautiful spot close to the shores of the Delaware, so that the people from New Castle and Raccoon creek, (on which Swedesborough was situated,) as well as those on the banks of the Christina and Brandywine could come almost to the church door in their boats. From that time to this the friendly relations of these river communities have been maintained, and in nothing can the people of the Delaware river unite more appropriately and heartily than in paying honor to the memory of William Penn—whose beneficent principles, enlightened statesmanship, and services to humanity, are more and more appreciated as the centuries roll on.

Mr. Conarroe having finished Mr. Keyser said:

Dr. Levick is present here. He is well known for his researches into the characteristics and purposes of the first settlers of our State and will in conclusion give a proper place to the Welsh element which was not without its influence on its destinies and claiming even a remote ancestry in Wales for its Founder. I have the honor to introduce to you Dr. JAMES J. LEVICK.



Dr. Levick spoke as follows :

*Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen:*

Of the Welsh people, for whom I am so unexpectedly asked to speak, I can truly say that they filled a very important place in the early life of this colony.

There were, it is true, but few Welshmen on the "Welcome." Many had preceded the Proprietor, and a large number came soon after he did. Penn was very fond of the Welsh, and, it is said, claimed a Welsh ancestry for himself. He had on board the "Welcome," as his physician, a Welshman—Thomas Wynne, "practitioner of physick," as, in his last will, he styles himself. For Wynne he had a warm personal regard, and gave his name to one of the principal streets of his new city, now known as Chestnut street. Indeed it is quite probable that Philadelphia owes the rectangular form of her streets to the Welsh town of which Dr. Wynne was a native.

A very large number of the important offices of the young Commonwealth were held by Welshmen. Thus, Dr. Wynne was Speaker of the first Provincial Assembly held in Philadelphia. Edward Jones was one of the first surgeons; Thomas Lloyd was the first deputy Governor after Penn; Griffith Owen one of the earliest Mayors; Henry Lewis one of the first "Peacemakers," while the Roberts, Ellis, Cadwaladers, Owens, Georges and other Britons were then, as their descendants now are among her most useful and honored citizens. It is, however, not to one race or to another, but to the harmonious blending and co-operation of them all that the wonderful development of our country is due.

And now, one word to our friends of Chester, who have to-day so kindly received us. I do not wonder if it were on such a lovely day as this is, and if his reception were at all so cordial as this has been, that William Penn was a happy man when he first came ashore at Upland. My friend, Dr. George Smith, the historian of Delaware County, always regretted that the name of this place was changed to Chester. Knowing as I do that the old name of Upland has been retained in the higher lands back of the city, I cannot share these regrets. William Penn was too good a classical scholar not to know that the old British town of Chester was but another name for *Castra—a camp*—the old Roman camp, which it so long was. While obliging his friend Pearson, if that story be a correct one, there doubtless seems a peculiar propriety in giving the name of *Chester—a camp*—to the place where he was first to pitch his tent in his new domain. Unlike the old Roman camp this was to be a camp of peace. Could he see that *Camp* now he would find its officers, like himself and his comrades, men of peace, its tents filled with useful wares, its caissons carrying not cannon but calicos, and its artillery made up of hammers and of saws, of shuttles and of looms—*a camp*, indeed, after William Penn's own heart.



The address of Dr. Levick closed the formal or rather it might be better said, the informal ceremony of the day. Under the foundation of the Memorial Stone Samuel L. Smedley placed a small stone taken from the soil over Penn's grave in England. Then the party from Philadelphia, under the guidance of the Chester Committee, examined some of the historical buildings in the city. The site of the Essex House and the old well, the Boar's Head Inn, the old Court House and Prison, site of the House of Defence, Graham (Hoskins) House, Logan House, Richardson House, tomb of John Morton, Friends' Meeting House, site of Sandelands Double House and other places of interest were among the points visited. At half past twelve the Philadelphians took the special train for Codnor Farm, Col. Frank M. Etting's place near Concord, to which they had been invited. The party was accompanied by the following gentlemen from Chester and Delaware county :

John Larkin, Jr.,  
 William Ward,  
 H. B. Black,  
 Rev. Philip Mowry,  
 George B. Lindsay,  
 John A. Wallace,  
 George M. Booth,  
 Dr. F. R. Graham,  
 Dr. R. P. Mercer,  
 Dr. Samuel Starr,  
 William Shaler Johnson,  
 H. G. Ashmead,  
 Henry B. Taylor,  
 Joseph McAlton,  
 Samuel Oglesby,

Adam C. Eckfeldt,  
 James Barton, Jr.,  
 Rev. Henry Brown,  
 D. M. Johnson,  
 Dr. Ellwood Harvey,  
 Dr. Hilborn Darlington,  
 George K. Crozer,  
 P. M. Washabaugh,  
 Charles E. Hyatt,  
 W. Ross Brown,  
 Joseph R. T. Coates,  
 Edward A. Price,  
 Oliver Troth,  
 Henry Palmer,  
 James A. Hargan,

R. A. Gilpin.

The train reached Woodland station in good time and from thence a short walk brought the party to Codnor Farm and to the old stone mansion now the residence of Col. Etting. The walk was delightful, the scenery beautiful—all the glories of the autumn in shade and color, lending enchantment to the country wherever the eye turned, and when the house was reached a simple yet ample repast was served, followed by segars, and a stroll about the grounds by those who wished or visits to the stables and examination of the stock for those who took an interest in farm details.

About three o'clock the party was assembled upon the piazza and lawn and Mr. N. W. Bennett, of Germantown, photographed the group, obtaining very good results.





In these various ways and in pleasant talk the afternoon passed quickly away and about five o'clock, after kindly congratulations and adieus had been exchanged with the hospitable host, the party walked back to the train and in due time reached their homes in Chester and Philadelphia, well pleased with the success of the day both ceremonially and socially.

Among the letters of regret received were the following :

CHADD'S FORD, PA., 11 Mo., 1882.

*Esteemed Friend, Frank M. Etting*:—Thy kind note, with programme of exercises to be held in Chester to-morrow, was received yesterday. While thanking thee sincerely for the courtesy extended, I regret my inability to be present at what I have no doubt will be an interesting occasion. Hoping you may have a pleasant day and all will pass off well on the real anniversary of the landing of that "great luminary in civil and religious affairs," William Penn, I am, Thy friend,

CLEMENT BIDDLE.

The following is an extract from a letter of Benson J. Lossing, the historian:

THE RIDGE, DOVER PLAINS, N. Y., November 7th, 1882.

*My Dear Colonel*:—I need not tell you how delighted I should be to accept your kind invitation to Codnor Farm, to participate in the sensible celebration of the Bicentury of the landing of the Founder of your State. But I am deprived of that pleasure by an engagement which requires me to be in Hartford, Conn., to-night. I hope you will all have a good time as I know you will. Yours as ever,

BENSON J. LOSSING.

Major General Hancock writes :

GOVERNOR'S ISLAND, NEW YORK, November 6th 1882.

*My dear Colonel*:—I have your note of the 4th instant, inviting me to be present on the 9th at the celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the landing of William Penn at Chester, Pa., October 28 1682. (O. S.).

On account of the sudden death a short time since of a very near relative, I have declined, for the present, all invitations to appear on social or public occasions: otherwise I should have accepted your invitation with great pleasure.

\* \* \* \* \*

With thanks for your courtesy in this matter, I am very truly, Yours,

WINFIELD S. HANCOCK.



INDUSTRIES

OF THE

— \* CITY OF CHESTER \* —

AND

DELAWARE COUNTY,

1882.



## INDUSTRIES OF CHESTER AND DELAWARE COUNTY.

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**T**HE compiler regrets that while the industries of the city of Chester and the surrounding boroughs will be found fairly complete in the following description, those of Delaware county, outside of these limits, should be so meagre. Circulars were sent to all known industries of importance in the county requesting detailed information, but the returns made have, for some reason, been very few. He is obliged, therefore, to give a general resume of a part of those industries derived from the censuses of 1880, for which he is indebted to the kindness of Hon. William Ward, of Chester, and such other detailed information as it has been possible to obtain, in the midst of other engagements.

The primitive industries of this section at the time William Penn bought the Province were of a very simple character. Agricultural pursuits, the culture and exportation of tobacco, and her trade with the Indians, and fishing with some little exchange of commodity with contiguous sections, seems to have been the extent of the business transacted by the primitive settlers. Later on the list of industries increases and during the next century and a half there was a rapid growth of all kinds of milling and other business. A grist mill was established at Upland, in 1683. The Ivy Paper Mills, in Concord, were established by Thomas Wilcox, in 1729, and others are among the first established. In 1826 a list of Dela-



ware county industries showed: 38 flour mills, 53 saw mills, 5 rolling mills, 14 woolen factories, 12 cotton factories, 11 paper mills, 2 powder mills, 1 nail factory, 4 tilt blade and edge tool manufactories, 1 power loom factory, 2 oil mills, 1 machine factory, 5 snuff mills, 2 plaster or gypsum mills, 3 clover mills, 3 bark mills, 1 mill for sawing stone. In all 158 mills and factories reported in Delaware county in 1826, more than half a century ago.

The census returns of a part of the industries of Delaware county, for 1880, show a steady advance in all branches in the time named above.

In this report 381 establishments are given. The invested capital is \$14,070,920; the average number of hands employed is of males, above 16 years, 6,711; of females, above 15 years, 2,885; of children and youths, 1,788. The amount paid in wages annually is \$3,822,434; the value of material \$10,872,672, and of products \$19,161,663.

It must be remembered that this report is only partial. It does not include the statistics of breweries and distilleries, coke, fishery products, flouring and grist mills products, gas and petroleum refining, the compilations for which were not completed, nor does it include the oil products and exports, which is a very large trade but which has been located in the county since the preparation of the census. It would be safe to accept \$17,000,000 as the amount of capital invested in manufactures in Delaware county.

The same report gives the following agricultural statistics :

### DELAWARE COUNTY:

Improved land, tilled.....	87,982 Acres
“ “ meadow.....	7,345 “
Unimproved land, woodland.....	10,766 “
“ “ other.....	1,257 “
Value of farms.....	\$18,437,570
“ farm implements.....	545,091
“ live stock.....	1,228,347
Paid for repair of fences.....	117,668
“ fertilizers.....	75,391
Live stock of all kinds, numbers.....	38,121

That is not a bad general showing and we should have liked to have supplemented it by a full description of every important industry in the county, but as has been said the material has not come to hand. Below we give such returns as have come to us, beginning with—





## CHESTER.

*The Shipyards of John Roach.*

The Delaware River Iron Shipbuilding and Engine Works is well-known and its history and usefulness well recorded in the large number of ships built there. The works were first established by Reaney & Son, in 1860. The manufacture now comprises iron ships, engines and boilers, and the name of John Roach, the President, is a household word among all interested in American shipbuilding. Its value to the community in which it is located cannot be over-estimated. In it are employed 1,226 men and 104 boys, whose weekly pay reaches the sum of \$15,000. The present company have operated the works for the past eleven years, and during this period sixty-four first-class ships and a large number of other vessels have been built and many large contracts for engines and boilers filled. The yard is always an objective point of interest to visitors to our city and its reputation is world-wide.

*Lincoln Manufacturing Company.*

The Lincoln Manufacturing Company is a stock company, with a paid up capital of \$100,000, incorporated in 1881. The building is a brick structure, 190 by 70 feet, two stories high, fitted with all modern conveniences. The engine room and boiler house comprise another building, 50 by 60 feet. Cotton yarns are at present manufactured, but the company expect in the near future to engage in weaving. The machinery, consisting of 6,840 spindles and 3 Foss-Perey cards, is driven by a 20 horse power engine, fed from a pair of double boilers. Thirty-three bales of cotton are used per week, making from 12,000 to 13,000 pounds of yarn during the same space of time. 14 men, 20 women, 21 girls and 10 boys are employed at wages amounting to over \$1,500 per month. Howard W. Weidner is Superintendent. The Directors are: S. Emley Meigs, President, of Philadelphia; Balmers Dale, of New York; A. Blakeley, Richard Wetherill, and W. S. Blakeley, Treasurer, of this city.

*Keokuk Mills.*

The "Keokuk Mills" were started at the foot of Fulton street, in 1852, by B. Gartside & Son, the present owners. The main building is a fine four story stone structure, 38 by 98 feet in dimensions, with picker house adjacent. These mills are supplied with good machinery, composed of four sets of cards, 80 looms and other necessary apparatus for making fine woolen jeans. A seventy horse-power engine is used. Employment is given to 77 hands, about half of whom are male, and \$2,400 are paid monthly as wages. 3,000 pounds of raw material is consumed per week and 14,000 yards are manufactured per month.

*Victoria Mills.*

The Victoria Mills, Fifth and Penn streets were established twenty years ago by John Gartside & Son. They comprise two buildings, one 120 by 40 feet and the other 120 by 30 feet, besides an engine house and picker room. They manufacture the best quality of woolen cassimeres and cloakings. The machinery comprises 24 broad looms, 4 sets of cards and 2,100 spindles, together with all the necessary appliances to turn out good work. A fifty horse-power engine is used. 3,400 pounds of wool is consumed per week, making 1,800 yards of double width goods. Fifty-four hands are employed, only fourteen of whom are females. \$1500 are paid every four weeks in wages.

*Algodon Mills.*

The Algodon Mills, at Eighth and Caldwell streets, were established, in 1866, by James Barton, Jr., and Simeon Cotton. The latter retired from the firm December 31, 1875. The main building is 100 by 50 feet, three stories high, engine, picker and finishing rooms, boiler house and office in another building, 32 by 68 feet, two stories high, both stone. 32,500 pounds of cotton are consumed per month, producing 600 pounds of yarn and 24,000 yards of goods. The machinery comprises 92 looms, 4536 spindles and 7 40-inch cards, one engine and three boilers. 19 men, 28 women, 6 girls and 10 boys are employed. \$1800 in wages are paid per month.

*Chester Dock Mills.*

The manufacturing business of J. Wm. Lewis & Co., Third and Garfield streets, was started, in 1833, by Phineas Lownes and J. Wm. Lewis, at Knowlton, Middletown township. In 1864 it was removed to its present location. The members of the firm are J. Wm. Lewis and Albert A. Roop. The main building is 251 feet long by 53 feet wide, three stories high, besides several other necessary buildings, all of stone and



brick. 875,000 pounds of cotton is consumed weekly in the manufacture of plaid Onsburgs, gingham, checks and stripes. The machinery comprises 300 looms, 8,040 spindles, 40 cards and 2 large engines, fed by 6 boilers. \$6,800 are paid out every month to 75 men, 100 women, 50 girls and 25 boys. The weekly production is 90,000 yards of cloth and 15,000 yards of yarn. Thomas Clough, Sr., is Superintendent.

#### *Yeadon Mills.*

"Yeadon Mills," Tenth and Upland streets, are operated by G. P. Denis. The business was established in Corsbokoeken, by Denis, Anderson & Co., in 1866, removed to Chester in 1870, and now occupies a substantial stone and brick building, 130 by 200 feet, with six smaller buildings adjacent. The machinery is exceedingly fine, comprising 38 broad Knowles & Co. looms, 2,280 spindles, 4 sets Engle 60 inch cards, 2 woolen dressing machines, 3 fulling mills, 1 washer, 3 gigs, a broad shear, dyer and 2 presses. A 10 horse power Corliss engine, fed by three large boilers, drives this machinery. 11 women, 44 girls and 19 boys are employed at a weekly pay of \$1.15. 2,600 pounds of raw material are used weekly in the manufacture of 3,250 yards of the best fancy cassimeres. William Kurer is Superintendent.

#### *The Irving & Leiper Manufacturing Company.*

The cotton yarn mills of the Irving & Leiper Manufacturing Company were established in April, 1849, by James Irving, David Irving and Thomas I. Leiper, with only 2,000 spindles. David Irving died in 1862. The business was continued by James Irving and Thomas I. Leiper until 1878, when it was incorporated as The Irving & Leiper Manufacturing Company, with James Irving as President; Thomas I. Leiper, Treasurer, and Charles H. Worthington, Secretary. The main building is 230 by 30 feet, three stories high; engine room, 40 feet square; picker room, 50 by 60 feet, and a warehouse, 30 by 70 feet, all three stories high and built substantially of brick. 12,000 spindles and 76 cards compose the machinery, driven by a 400 horse power engine, fed by six boilers. 29 men, 29 women, 29 boys and 20 girls are employed. 3,000 bales of cotton are consumed in a year, giving a weekly production of 22,000 pounds of manufactured yarn. The works are at the foot of Franklin street, occupying a square of ground. James Irving, William Ward and Thomas I. Leiper are the Directors.

#### *Mohawk Mill.*

The Mohawk Mills, Third and Franklin streets, were started about 1856 by Samuel Eccles, Jr. It passed through several ownerships until May 13, 1871, when it was purchased by Robert Hall & Son. Mr. Hall first began manufacturing at Waterville, in 1863 where he remained for eight years. The main building is 137 by 40 feet, 2 stories high. It contains 2 sets of woolen cards, 48 inches, 2 self-acting mules, 300 spindles each, and 44 looms. 44 hands are employed, half of whom are males. 27,000 pounds of raw cotton and wool is consumed weekly, from which is produced 10,200 yards of goods. A 25 horse power engine and 50 horse power boiler are used. The wages are \$325 per week.

#### *S. A. Crozer & Son's Chester Mills.*

S. A. Crozer & Son's mill, on Edgmont avenue, is comparatively a new industry in this location. It was established by the firm of S. A. Crozer & Son, the noted Upland manufacturers, and is situated on Edgmont avenue, north of the Postoffice and near Chester creek. The main building is of brick, 140 by 60 feet, two stories high, with picker room addition, 24 by 60 feet. They manufacture cotton goods and employ 15 men, 45 women and girls, and 20 boys. The machinery consists of 6,333 spindles, 48 cards and one Corliss engine with 3 boilers. The monthly pay roll is about \$1,900. 50,000 pounds of cotton per month is used, with a weekly production of 12,000 pounds of warp yarn. William D. Howard is Superintendent.

#### *Broad Street Mills.*

The buildings at Broad and Crosby streets, owned by James Stevens and used for the manufacture of bed ticking, warps and cops, were originally built for a sash factory and machine shop—the first on Broad street, the second on Crosby street. In 1856 they were used by James Campbell for the manufacture of cotton goods, and at his death, in 1862, passed into the hands of General Patterson, under the charge of James Stevens. They reverted to Mr. Stevens in March, 1882. Since Mr. Campbell's time the buildings have been much enlarged and improved and the old machinery replaced with new. The main mill on Broad street is 208 by 28 feet, three stories high, and on Crosby street, 222 by 36 feet. The latter is two stories high, with the exception of 6 feet, which is one story. In this part is the dye and finishing house, 60 by 60 feet, provided with a small engine and a pump for forcing water over the building in case of fire. The machinery consist of 85 looms, 9,048 spindles and 16 cards, driven by two engines with two sets of boilers. 36 men, 47 women, 21 girls and 17 boys are employed, and the wages per week is \$800. 35 bales of cotton per week are used, producing 25,000 yards of ticking and 14,000 pounds of yarn. William B. Stevens is Superintendent.



*A. Blakeley & Sons.*

The Arasapha Mills of Abraham Blakeley & Sons are located on Walnut street, above Tenth. Mr. Blakeley began business in 1847, at Knowlton, in Aston township. The firm was Lowndes & Blakeley. Lowndes sold to J. Wm Lewis, and in 1854 Mill No. 1 was established on the present site, and additions were made in 1874 and 1877. The main building is now 276 by 50 feet; the dye house, 100 by 40 feet, with storage shed for 600 bales of cotton. Bed ticking, ginghams and cotton goods are manufactured. The machinery comprises 276 looms, 8,500 spindles and 36 cars, driven by a large Corliss engine, with three sets of boilers. All the machine work is done at the mill, there being a separate machine shop for the purpose. 34 bales of cotton are used and 66,000 yards turned out. 67 men, 69 women, 36 girls and 25 boys are employed, and \$5,000 per month are paid in wages.

*Lilley Manufacturing Company.*

The Lilley & Sons' Manufacturing Company, Front and Franklin streets, was established by John Lilley & Son, August 1, 1873, and on January 3, 1880, it was incorporated under the above name, with John Lilley as President; William, Henry and George Lilley, stockholders. August 20, 1881, John Lilley died, and William Lilley was elected to fill his place, and John Lilley, Jr., Secretary and Treasurer. The front building is 100 by 34 feet; building connecting front and back building, 81 by 36 feet; back building, 122 by 40 feet. Cotton and woolen cloths and cotton yarn are manufactured. The machinery consists of 111 looms, 3,252 spindles, 25 cards, with one engine and four boilers, one heating furnace, and the usual appliances of a cotton and woolen mill, with a full set of machines for making warps. 31 men, 36 women, 24 girls and 12 boys are employed, at a monthly wage of \$3,061. The amount of raw material is 12,000 pounds and the weekly production 25,000 yards. John Lilley, Jr., is Superintendent.

*Chester City Mills.*

The Chester City Mills, Front and Parker streets, were established, in 1877, by Branagan & Lamb. The main building is 40 by 42 feet, with picker house and other structures adjacent. The firm manufacture woolen and cotton jeans and woolen yarns exclusively. 90 looms, 1,700 spindles, 5 sets of cards and other necessary machinery is driven by a 60 horse power engine. 15 men, 5 women, 7 boys and 13 girls are employed, and \$2,100 are paid every four weeks in wages. 1,630 pounds of yarns and 4,700 of cotton are used, and 85,000 yards of manufactured goods are turned out per month.

*Patterson Mills.*

The Patterson Mills, Sixth and Penn streets, were established by General Robert Patterson, in 1867, and now owned by his estate. The main building is of stone, 318 by 72 feet. Half of this is three stories and the other half two stories high, and there are store house and other buildings connected with it. The machinery consists of 306 looms, about 14,000 spindles, 65 cards and one Corliss engine, with 3 boilers. 20 hands are employed in the manufacture of cotton goods at a monthly wage of \$5,000. 72,000 pounds of cotton are used per week, with a weekly production of 64,600 pounds of goods. James D. Davis is Superintendent.

*The Mill of James M. Stotesbury.*

The cotton yarn manufactory of James M. Stotesbury, corner of Fourteenth and Edgmont avenue, was established by Mr. Stotesbury in 1874. The building is of stone, 165 feet long by 62 feet wide, one story high. The machinery consists of 12 cards and 3,520 spindles, is of the most improved pattern and is driven by a large engine fed from 3 boilers. 28,000 pounds of yarn is spun monthly, consuming 32,000 pounds of raw cotton. 14 men, 8 women, 12 girls and 6 boys are employed, and the wages are \$1,000 per month. Alexander Struthers is Superintendent.

*Bowers' Shoddy Mill.*

The shoddy mill of James Bowers & Son was established in Waterville, in 1873, and removed to its present site, Sixth and Madison streets, in 1877. The main building is of stone and brick, 80 by 40 feet, two stories high, with engine house and store rooms attached. Prepared wools, shoddy and wun are made, employing 18 hands at \$700 per month. The material used is assorted waste, which is manufactured into wool, valued at \$10,000 per month.

*Log-Wood Mills.*

The Riverside Dye Wood Mills were established at Waterville, in 1835, by Smith & Hartshorne, who were shortly succeeded by John M. Sharpless, who remained at the head of the concern until his death, in 1875. The present firm is Thomas Scattergood, Henry Palmer and John W. Pepper. During 1880 the business was removed to the



large and substantial buildings in the South Ward. The dimensions of the main buildings are 113 feet front by 61 feet deep; the red wood mill, 47 by 54 feet, and the extract buildings, 52 by 50 feet, giving a total frontage of 212 feet and about 180 feet of wharfage, with a depth of 15 feet of water at low tide. The main and extract buildings are four stories in height, and the adjoining mill two and a half stories. 60 hands are employed at a yearly wage of about \$30, 00. This is the only industry of its kind in the State.

#### *Chester Chemical Works.*

The Chester Chemical Works, at the foot of Market street, were established by Mr. McIntyre, and are now owned by George S. Coyne. Two large buildings, 100 by 50 feet and one 50 feet square, and a number of lesser structures are on the grounds. Two stills of 5,000 pounds of muriatic acid capacity per week, and a nitric acid still of 1,000 pounds per week, are used in the manufacture of these two commercial acids, as well as an ammonia still of 200 pounds capacity per day, and another for making pyro-lignous acid. This latter acid is made from oak wood, a single cord furnishing 100 gallons. Oxymuriate of antimony, muriate and oxymuriate of tin and muriate of iron are among the products used for calico and other dyeing. About 700 barrels of Geauber's salts are annually made from the residue left in the muriatic acid stills. 6 men are employed at \$60 per week. Robert Lidstone is Superintendent.

#### *Cocoa Mat and Matting Works.*

The Chester Cocoa Mat and Matting Factory was established in July, 1879, by Black & Worrell. Mr. Black retired from the firm, and Edward S. Worrell now occupies the old mill at the Water Works Wharf, which is thoroughly stocked with improved machinery. 25,000 pounds of raw cocoa yarn is consumed, turning out over 70 dozen mats and 1,200 yards of matting per week. 40 hands are employed, 11 of whom are girls, and nearly all the work is done by the piece. \$300 is the average weekly pay.

#### *Robert Wetherill & Co.*

The foundry and machine shops of Robert Wetherill & Co., at 6th and Upland streets, were started January 1, 1872, in a small machine shop, and have grown until 7 large buildings, covering a square of ground, are needed for the business. 150 tons of pig iron, 75 of plate and 20 of wrought iron are monthly used in the manufacture of Corliss engines, boilers, shafting and gearing. 225 men and 25 boys are employed and monthly receive \$10,000 in wages. The works comprise machine shops, smith shop, foundry, boiler shop, casting house, pattern shop, pattern store house, office and store rooms.

#### *Edge Tool and Axe Factory.*

The Edge Tool and Beatty Axe Company, of which H. B. Black is proprietor and John C. Beatty, Superintendent, is one of the oldest industries in the county, having been first established in Shoemakerville, in 1806, by William Beatty. In 1840 he associated with him his son, John C. Beatty, under the firm name of William Beatty & Son. At the death of William Beatty the business was continued by John C. Beatty. Owing to the failing of water power and limited facilities, he built extensive works in Chester in 1871. The principal articles of manufacture are butchers, railroad and carpenter's tools. All tools made here bear the old stamp of William Beatty & Son. 60 hands are employed and the monthly pay is \$3,000.

#### *Chester Steel Casting Company.*

The Chester Steel Casting Company, Sixth and Norris streets, was started, in 1870, by S. M. Felton, A. R. Perkins, Amos Gartside and Samuel Archbold. It is now controlled by J. S. Waterman, Amos Gartside, E. P. Dwight and the estate of A. R. Perkins, deceased. The buildings consist of a foundry, 200 by 50 feet, and other buildings covering an area of 250 square feet. The business is steel castings and the machinery consist of two engines with three boilers, one heating furnace and three annealing furnaces. 85 men and 15 boys are employed at a monthly wage of \$5,000. The raw material used is 1,200 tons and the value of the weekly production \$3,000. The character of the work stands high, the steel castings being well known for strength and durability. John J. Deemer is Superintendent.

#### *Combination Steel and Iron Company.*

The industry of the Combination Steel and Iron Company was started in November, 1880. Operations were begun March 1, 1881, and since then large quantities of bar and flat iron of the best kind have been made. The main building is 250 by 80 feet, with a wing, 80 by 70 feet. The works contain 8 heating furnaces, a rail mill with a yearly capacity of 30,000 tons; a 12 inch bar mill for making merchant iron, capable





of producing 6,000 tons a year, and a 20 inch mill for angle iron of 10,000 tons capacity, 175 men are employed at \$3,000 per week. John Roach is President; Mr. Chalfant, Secretary; Charles A. Weed, General Manager, and James W. Watson, Sup't.

#### *Eureka Steel Casting Company.*

The Eureka Steel Casting Company have been in successful operation at Lanokin station since September 1877. They manufacture steel castings solely. The works are large and substantial, furnished with every facility for carrying on an extensive business. The principal appliances consists of one heating and 7 annealing furnaces, two shapes, plainer, &c. 80 men and 20 boys are employe', 120 tons of raw material are used per month. Fredrick Baldt is superintendent.

#### *Phœnix Iron Works.*

The Phœnix Iron Company, northwest corner of Seventh and Potter streets, was established in 1867. The main building is 100 by 50 feet, two stories high; the foundry, 110 by 30 feet. They manufacture finishing machinery, fulling mill washing machines, tentering machines, stock dryers, dyeing and sizing machines, broad looms and gigs, the latter a patent which they control in this and seven European countries. The machinery is that generally used in such establishments, driven by one engine with one set of boilers. 27 men and 4 boys are employed and the weekly wages are \$314.

#### *Chester Iron Works.*

The Chester Iron Works, on Second street below Market, were started, in 1850, as the Delaware Country Iron Works by William Trout & Co., and have since that time had several owners. On February 1, 1881, they were purchased by H. C. Eyre & Co. The building of engines and all kinds of machine work gives steady employment to 60 men. The main building is 110 by 38 feet, with an addition, 150 by 45 feet, besides a pattern building, 40 feet square. A large amount of pig, plate and bar iron is used weekly. The works are supplied with the most improved machinery, and the wages are \$600 weekly.

#### *Blagg's Brass Foundry.*

In the one story brick building, 16 by 36 feet, in the rear of 315 West Second street is Frank Blagg's Brass Foundry, which was established June 1, 1870. 800 pounds of brass are monthly used in making castings. \$400 worth of manufactured goods are produced every month.

#### *National Hydraulic Works.*

This industry is located at the corner of Sixth and Crosby streets, and manufactures a new hydraulic ram of approved construction which may be applied to the following purposes: Irrigating land, supplying dairies, farms, dwellings, factories, engine-, railroad stations, villages, &c. This ram combines the greatest simplicity with the greatest efficiency. The cylinder into which the water passes is perfectly plain, and is surmounted by an air chamber equally plain, which is held in place by keys driven under lugs attached to the cylinder. The impetus or waste valve is attached to a head at the outlet end of the cylinder, and is operated by a spring, to which is a regulating screw, by which the power of the ram is increased or diminished, according to the supply of water. It is more simple, durable and powerful than those of other construction, and is rapidly growing in favor. Henry F. Morrow is the projector of the works. At the same place has also been established, in connection with this industry, another—

#### *The Excelsior Brass Works,*

Where is carried on brass founding and finishing of every description. Car trimmings are a specialty, while nickel, silver and gold plating and polishing is done in the best manner. Mr. Morrow is Manager.

#### *Chester Morocco Company.*

The Chester Morocco Company (Limited) is located on Edgmont Avenue, above Third street. They were established May 1, 1879, by Joseph R. T. Coates. The corporate name was adopted November 1, 1881. The building is a four story frame, 75 by 32 feet. The most improved machinery is in use, among which are 47 vats with a capacity of 1,500 skins each; 2 tank tubs, giving the works a capacity of 50 dozen skins per day. 20 men and 1 girl are employed and the wages are \$800 per month.

#### *Book Binding and Tablet Making.*

The Book Bindery of John Spencer is a new industry in Chester. In the spring



of 1882 Mr. Spencer, proprietor of the *Delaware County Advocate*, 517 and 519 Edgmont Avenue, placed in his establishment the necessary machinery for book binding. Good workmen are employed. A specialty is made of the manufacture of blank books.

#### *Branin's Carriage Works.*

The Carriage Works of I. P. Branin were established in Philadelphia in 1854, and were removed to Chester, in 1871, to the shops at Fifth and Welsh streets, and again in May, 1876, to Sixth and Pine streets. A two story building, 81 by 84 feet, with an annex, 40 by 80 feet, comprise the shops, where are manufactured carriages and wagnettes. 20 hands are employed.

#### *Stark's Carriage Works.*

In May, 1879, Messrs. Davis & Stark established a Carriage Manufactory at Fifth and Welsh streets, and on October 1st, of the same year, Davis withdrew from the firm. Mr. Stark continued the business, turning out about fifty new carriages per week, besides doing a large amount of repair work. 8 men are employed, and \$5 per week is paid in wages.

#### *Ocheltree's Carriage Works*

The Carriage Manufactory of M. Ocheltree was first located on Edgmont Avenue, in 1877, below its present site, but the increase of the business obliged Mr. Ocheltree, in 1879, to erect the present building, which is 120 by 40 feet, two stories, and is supplied with all the newest and best appliances for the manufacture of fine carriages. 16 men and 4 boys are employed at an average weekly pay of \$190, and the annual production reaches \$28,000.

#### *Taylor's Carriage Works*

The firm of W. & E. C. Taylor, corner of Twelfth and Edgmont Avenue, is the oldest in Chester. The grandfather of the gentlemen comprising the firm first established the business. The father succeeded him in 1882, and was later succeeded by the sons. It was first located at Fifth and Welsh streets, then at Sixth and Pine streets, and in 1874 moved to its present location. The building is 110 by 40 feet. From 6 to 12 hands are employed, and the monthly production averages about \$500.

#### *E. D. Sparks & Co, Oils and Belting.*

In 1875, E. D. Sparks & Co. started in business at Sixth and Welsh streets, and shortly removed to 103 West Third street. They manufacture leather belting, lubricating and burning oils, and now occupy a factory and warehouse in addition to the store. The factory comprises two large rooms, 50 by 40 feet, fitted with the latest improved machinery. 3 men and 2 boys are employed.

#### *Wilby's Belting Works.*

Thomas Wilby, manufacturer of leather belting, established his business in 1878, and is now located under Holly Tree Hill. He has manufactured some of the largest belts made. 6 hands are employed at a weekly wage of \$80. 225 sides of leather are used per month, and the monthly production averages in value \$2,500.

#### *Howland & Nichols' Roller Covering.*

In the third story of L. L. Lukens & Co.'s building, Edgmont Avenue, near Seventh street, Howland & Nichols manufacture top roll covers, and the amount of new material, leather and cloth, the last all wool made especially for their business, used per month is between \$500 and \$600. The leather is of lamb, sheep and calf. The weekly production is 8,000 covered rolls, and 4 hands are employed.

#### *Gould & Kay, Roller Coverers.*

Gould & Kay began business at their present location, May 8, 1832, but the business had been conducted for seven or eight years before in the Patterson mill building, corner of Sixth and Penn streets. They manufacture top rollers and clearer coverings. The material employed is calf and sheep skin, of which about \$150 worth per month is used, and the monthly production is valued at \$300.

#### *Lukens' Grist Mill*

L. L. Lukens & Co. began business on Sixth street, in 1877, and in June, 1879, removed to Edgmont Avenue, below Seventh street. In the main building, 70 by 30 feet, 6 men are employed. In the building on Edgmont Avenue is an engine of 30 horse power, with one set of boilers and the best and newest appliances for the business, with



a machine shop, in which all repairs are made. They have an elevator, the best appliances for unloading grain, and the run is about 30,000 bushels of corn per annum, and other grains in proportion. They also manufacture feed and unbolted flour.

#### *Candy Manufactories.*

The Candy Manufactory of George F. Cutler was established at Second street and Concord Avenue, in 1878, and in 1879 was removed to 806 West Third street, and 538 Market street. 5 men, 3 women and girls and 2 boys are employed, at weekly wages of \$75. 1,600 pounds of sugar and molasses, 125 coconuts, 100 pounds of shelled peanuts, 10 pounds shelled almonds, 15 pounds shelled walnuts, 5 pounds shelled filberts; 5 pounds shelled creamnuts, 25 quarts cream for caramels, and a large number of miscellaneous articles, are used in the manufacture per week, with a weekly production of over a ton of confectionery. George F. Cutler is Superintendent.

William Bagshaw, in 1848, began business as a candy manufacturer, in Leiperville, and in 1850 he removed to Chester. He is located at 818 Edgmont Avenue.

In the Candy Manufactory of William B. Rhoads, at 143 West Third street, 3,000 pounds of sugar and other articles in proportion are used per week, with a weekly production of 400 pounds of confectionery.

#### *Hunter's Shoe Manufactory.*

William Hunter began the boot and shoe manufacture under Edgmont Hall in 1877, but in 1879 moved over Thompson's grocery store, on Edgmont avenue, where he has a room 70 by 20 feet, and employs 9 hands at about \$90 per week. The raw material used is \$9,000 per year and the yearly production is \$18,000.

#### *Stroud & Co.'s Planing Mill.*

In 1871, John H. Stroud and Robert Booth established the sash factory on the south side of Front street and Concord Avenue. The machinery consists of one engine and boiler. 12 men and 2 boys are employed at a monthly pay of \$600. 150,000 feet of lumber is used per year. In 1876 the mill was destroyed by fire and the firm then moved to their present location, corner Front and Concord Avenue. The main building is of brick, 45 by 40 feet, three stories, with a two story engine room, 25 by 20 feet, and a commodious office. The mill contains all the latest improved machinery.

#### *Penn Street Planing Mill.*

The Penn Street Planing Mill of Henry M. Hinkson, Fourth and Penn streets, is a two story brick building, 100 by 40 feet. Mr. Hinkson built the mill in 1875, and rented it to Miller Cox until 1881. In May of that year Mr. Hinkson began the sash and planing business. 10 hands are employed and \$100 per week is paid for wages. 100,000 feet of lumber is annually made into sash, doors and other building material. A considerable amount of planing for the lumber yards of our city is done.

#### *Morton & Black.*

The Saw Mill and Sash Factory of Morton & Black was started in 1865. H. B. Black entered the firm about a year later and continued therein until 1879. The building, situated along the river front at the foot of Morton Avenue, is 150 feet long, 40 feet wide and two stories high, with a fire proof engine house, 30 by 60 feet, and offices, stables, &c., in the near vicinity. This mill employs 48 men and 2 boys, and consumes 3,000,000 feet of lumber per month, besides planing and sawing. The monthly pay roll is \$1,250. William Hinkson, Jr., is Superintendent.

#### *Miller Cox's Sash Mill.*

The Sash Factory of Miller Cox was established September 1, 1876, at Fourth and Penn streets, but removed four years thereafter to the new mill at Seventh and Penn streets. The building is 104 by 32 feet, two stories high. 15 men are employed who annually turn out large numbers of sash, doors, blinds, frames, etc.

#### *Hamilton's Box Factory.*

The box factory of John Hamilton occupies a brick building, 30 by 60 feet, at the corner of Front and Franklin streets. About 50,000 feet of lumber is consumed per month. 4 men are employed at \$50 per week. The mill is fitted with all necessary machinery. Power is received from the Lilley Manufacturing Company adjoining.

#### *Barrel Repairing Works.*

The firm of J. J. Bradley & Co., of Philadelphia, have a branch here under charge of William J. Bradley, at the foot of Market street. The business consists in collect-



ing second-hand barrels and re-coopering them. The collection in this place amounts to 35,000 per annum, and of these 10,000 are sent to Wilmington and the balance, 25,000, to Philadelphia. This is the only establishment of the kind in Chester and employs three hands at a weekly pay of \$25

#### *Franklin Street Kindling Wood Works.*

In 1878, A. B. Rees established a Kindling Wood Works in South Chester, and one year afterward he removed to the present location at foot of Franklin street. Five men are employed and \$36 are paid every week for wages.

#### *Mast and Spar Sheds.*

The Mast and Spar Works of John Sanville occupy a long one story building at the foot of Fulton street. The masts used by coach's ship-yard are here hewn from the rough logs, besides the major part of the work of this kind used on the river. \$10,000 worth of lumber is annually consumed. The white pine comes from Clearfield county, in this State, and the spruce logs from Maine. Four men are employed and \$100 per week in wages paid.

#### *Price's Brick Yard.*

The Brick Yard of J. C. & W. G. Price was established in 1854, on the site now occupied by the mill of G. P. Denis. The present works are located on a seven acre tract of land at Fifth and Parker streets. 30,000 machine made bricks are produced per day. Three kilns are used and 20 men employed. \$180 are paid weekly for wages.

## UPLAND.

#### *Crozers' Upland Mills.*

J. P. Crozer & Son removed their business from Crozer ville to the present location, in Upland, in 1844. The death of J. P. Crozer, in 1866, led to a division of the property, mills No. 1 and 3 being now under the control of J. P. Crozer's Sons, and mill No. 2 under S. A. Crozer & Son. Mill No. 2 is a large and substantial brick and stone structure, well fitted with all appliances for the manufacture of cotton plaids, checks and sheeting. There are 468 looms, 11,344 spindles, 76 cards, with engines of the aggregate horse power of 325. 305 hands are employed, and the pay every four weeks is \$8,000. 1,133,294 pounds of cotton are used per annum and the yearly production is 9,820 pounds of yarn, which is equal to 7,720,000 yards of cotton. Agur Castle is Superintendent. J. P. Crozer's Sons mills (Nos. 1 and 3) are located in Upland, as stated above. The main mill (No. 3) is 336 by 60 feet, three stories high; engine room, 20 by 40 feet, two stories high, and store house, 50 by 30 feet, three stories high. Mill No. 1 is 180 by 50 feet, four stories and attic high, with a three story addition, 8 by 50 feet; picker room, two stories, 50 by 30 feet; machine and repair shop, two stories, 50 by 30 feet; fo' ding rooms, 50 by 50 feet, two stories; stables and wash house and other buildings. Dye house, 100 by 30 feet; cotton house, 75 by 50 feet, and constructed of stone and brick. There is also a boiler and waste house to each of the mills. The machinery in the two mills aggregates 580 looms, 21,232 spindles, 110 36-inch cards, with engines of 150 and 200 horse power respective y. 193 men, 170 women, 55 girls and 82 boys are employed, the pay every four weeks being \$14,000. 80 bales of cotton are used per week, and the yearly production is 1,142,000 pounds of No. 20 yarn. In 1881, 1,955,000 pounds of cotton were used and 9,605,600 yards of goods made. J. G. Steen is Superintendent.

## EDDYSTONE.

#### *Eddystone Manufacturing Company.*

The Eddystone Manufacturing Company (Limited) was founded, in 1844, by Wm. Simpson, at the Falls of Schuylkill, Philadelphia. In 1869 Mr. Simpson's sons were admitted to the firm, which became Wm. Simpson & Sons. It was removed to Eddystone in 1874, and in 1877 the Eddystone Manufacturing Company (Limited) was formed, of which the old firm are the principal owners. The works were enlarged and the finest machinery introduced to make prints in all colors. They manufacture the noted Eddystone prints and cotton prints, as well as the Wm. Simpson & Sons' mourning prints, for which the old firm was so famed, the goods still retaining their high reputation. There are 14 buildings in all, viz: Engraving and color rooms, 242 by 82 feet, one story; bleaching, 244 by 90 feet, one story; boiler house, 112 by 72 feet, one story; cloth store house, 112 by 50 feet, one story; white room, 107 by 84 feet, one story; west boiler house, 202 by 72 feet, one story; south dye house, 202 by 92 feet, one story; north dye house, 223 by 92 feet, one story; finishing house, 300 by 60 feet, two stories; print





rooms, 300 by 85 feet, three stories; Retort house, 90 by 90 feet, one story; machine shop, 150 by 60 feet, one story; planing mill, 100 by 90 feet, one story; pump house, 60 by 35 feet, one story; stable, 114 by 92 feet, one story. The 15 buildings mentioned cover, themselves, nearly five acres of ground. The machinery is of the most approved kind for bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing. There are 54 engines with 37 boilers, consuming 25,000 tons of coal per annum. 503 men, 61 women and girls, and 160 boys are employed, and the weekly production is 30,000 pieces of 48 yards each.

Such an industry as this has built up about it a thriving village. The liberality of the company and of Mr. Simpson has made this a delightful locality. The Lighthouse Library, a handsome building, containing a reading room, smoking room, and hall that will accommodate 300 people, built in Gothic style, and finished in hard wood, with open timber roof, is only one of the evidences of the good taste and wisdom of the owners of the property. An admirable system of water supply, well laid out and well kept streets, comfortable homes for the operatives, together with the natural beauty of the location, make Eddystone one of the pleasantest places hereabouts.

## NORTH CHESTER.

### Powhattan Mills.

On January 1, 1864, Messrs. H. Shaw and D. R. Esrey began the manufacturing business at Pendleton Mills, now Bridgewater. They succeeded Patrick Kelly. In September, 1866, they removed to North Chester and built "Powhattan" No. 1 Mill. On January 1, 1878, the firm changed to Shaw, Esrey & Co., (limited), with a capital stock of \$300,000. No. 2 Mill was built in 1871, and No. 3 in 1877. They have an average dimension of 130 by 55 feet each, with dye house, finishing houses, dry houses and all other necessary buildings for woolen manufacture. Kentucky jeans and fancy cassimeres are manufactured, the latter with a retail value of \$1.50 per yard. The aggregate number of looms of the three mills is 330. There are 20 sets of woolen machinery and 380 horse power engines. Tubular boilers are used. 300 hands are employed, and the pay roll every four weeks is \$8000. The amount of raw materials used is 36 bales of cotton per week, 20,000 pounds of wool per month and 350,000 pounds of cotton warps per year. The annual production amounts to 3,000,000 yards of goods. John Shaw is Superintendent.

### Irvington Mills.

The Irvington Mills, in North Chester, were established in Philadelphia, in 1842, by James and David Irvine. In 1845 they were removed to Delaware county, and the firm is now James Irving & Son. The main building is of stone, 152 by 54 feet, four stories. No. 2 is 100 by 40 feet, one story; No. 3 stone, two stories. The machinery consists of 106 looms, 2,100 spindles and 16 cards. Water and steam are used, comprising 8 turbine water wheels and one engine with 6 Demford boilers, aggregating 125 horse power, and manufacture woolen threads and jeans. 31 men, 50 women, 4 girls and 16 boys are employed, at a monthly wage of \$3,400. About 200,000 pounds of wool are used and produce 50,000 yards of goods per month. 80,000 pounds of cotton yarns are used per annum. William A. Irving is Superintendent. There are about 85 acres of land connected with this establishment.

### North Chester Brickyard.

The brickyard of S. J. Rose & Son occupies a 15 acre tract on Providence and Twenty-first streets. 40 men and boys and 5 horses and carts are employed, and the weekly pay is \$400. All kinds of brick are manufactured, 22,000 being turned out per day. The yard has 3 kilns. Mr. Rose first started in the brick business on Upland street, near Tenth, in the North Ward. From there he removed to his present location thirteen years ago.

## SOUTH CHESTER.

### Chester Oil Works.

The Chester Oil Works, in South Chester, are one of our most important industries. To appreciate its magnitude and gain an idea of this interesting business, at least a day should be spent on the grounds and in the numerous buildings used in carrying on the enterprise. The company was organized in September, 1880, but refining oils did not begin until the 23d of the following March. The grounds comprise 87 acres, and the buildings cover about 12 acres. 12 large stills with a charging capacity of 10,000 barrels, 2 agitators, 6 bleachers and 6 large boilers for engine and pumping purposes, with much other machinery, are used in turning out 2,000 barrels of refined oil per day.



and 1,600 barrels of tar and an equal amount of naphtha per week. 20,000 barrels of crude oil are used per week. There is a storage capacity of 14,000 barrels of crude oil tankage, besides 60,000 barrels of other tankage. Three of the largest pumps have each a capacity of 3,000 barrels per hour. They carry 14 inch suction lines and 12 inch supply lines. Beneath the surface of the entire grounds is a perfect network of pipes, all of which are accurately drawn on a plan of the works, so that at any time an engineer with compass and chain can not only find any pipe desired, but every joint and stop cock can be designated and its size and use told. There is not a tank or building anywhere in the works that is not well protected in case of fire, as both steam and water can be turned on in all of them in such quantity as to extinguish the flames. 4 Artesian wells have been sunk to obtain cold water for condensing purposes. One of these are 450 feet deep and furnishes 70 barrels per hour. The ordinary supply of water is obtained from the river. There is wharfage for 13 vessels, with a depth of 20 to 24 feet at low water, and for the protection of the shipping in winter ice sheds have been erected. They are the only private ones on the Atlantic coast. 17 different kinds of oil are made and shipped to all parts of the world. Besides barrels, 5-gallon tin cans are used for this purpose, and works for the manufacture of the latter have just been completed and fitted up with intricate and expensive machinery. Little, if any, of this work is done by hand. The tin is cut, squared, bent into proper shape, stamped and soldered by machinery. The last operation is performed by an ingenious invention of Frank W. Edward, Superintendent of the works, and has a capacity of turning out 14,000 perfectly soldered cans. Of this number not a dozen will leak when severely tested. Before shipment these cans are packed, two in a wooden box, also made entirely by machinery. 375 hands, only a couple of dozen of whom are boys are employed, at a weekly pay of \$3,400, exclusive of men paid by the month.

#### *Sea Board Oil Company.*

The works of the Sea Board Oil Company, W. E. Cotter, Manager and Treasurer, were established, July 1, 1881, on an admirably located lot on Front street, between Trainer and Booth streets. These works comprise 8 buildings, covering an aggregate of about half an acre. 8 engines, 3 boilers and 15 stills are used in the manufacture of lubricating oils, paraffine oils and wax, refined burning oils, gasoline and naphtha. 1,300 barrels of crude oil are consumed daily. 33 men are employed at a weekly pay of \$367.

#### *Delaware Oil Refining Works.*

The Delaware Oil Refining Company was established by W. F. Young, in August, 1881, at its present location, between Second and Front and Johnson and Price streets, South Chester. It was incorporated October 15, 1881, as the Delaware Oil Refining Company. There are 8 good sized buildings, of brick and frame, covering about half an acre. They manufacture paraffine oil and wax. The engines are 65 horse power, and there are six stills, the weekly capacity of which is 400 barrels. 18 hands are employed at a weekly wage of \$225. 550 barrels of residuum of petroleum oil are used per week, and the weekly capacity of the works is of oil 350 and 50 barrels of wax.

#### *Vulcan Works.*

The Vulcan Works at Delaware Avenue and Reaney streets, South Chester, started in 1864, by William H. Green, in a building 40 by 120 and has been enlarged to a handsome brick structure 144 by 120, with sub-buildings 30 feet square. The latter are used as a cupola house and oven, and as a casting, cleaning and boiler house. The products manufactured here are of steel, iron and brass. A specialty is made in brass and steel valves and cocks of all kinds. A large amount of general machine work is also done. The works have a capacity of \$10,000 worth of manufactured goods per month. Fifty men are employed at wages of \$2,000 per month.

#### *Chester Pipe and Tube Company.*

The Chester Pipe and Tube Company was established at Front and West streets, South Chester, in 1877. It was incorporated by the Legislature with a capital of \$300,000. The grounds comprise 17 acres, which contains two long brick buildings, besides several other smaller ones. They manufacture 10,000 tons of wrought iron pipes and tubes annually, consuming 20,000 tons of scrap iron. 200 hands on an average are employed at a monthly pay of \$8,000 to \$10,000. W. S. McMunn is Superintendent; Geo. H. Potts, President; A. D. Hepburn, Secretary and Treasurer.

#### *Centennial Mills.*

The Centennial Mills occupying a main building 600 feet long by 50 wide at Second and Clayton streets, were established in May, 1876, by Simeon Cotton, and were ready to open on the 10th of the month, but that being the grand opening of the Centennial exhibition in Philadelphia, the mills were not started until the 11th, hence their name. 14 bales of cotton are used per week in the manufacture of 6,000 pounds



of cotton warps; 3,050 spindles and 13 cards is the machinery used. 9 men, 9 women, 8 girls and 14 boys find work here on a monthly pay of \$250. S. H. Cotton is Superintendent.

#### *Charles Roberts' Mills.*

In 1871, Charles Roberts began operations in the Water Works building at the foot of Fulton street. It was removed in 1873, to its present location at the foot of Jeffery street in South Chester. The works comprise two mills, one 70 by 66 feet, 2 stories high with engine and boiler room, dye house, picker room, and finishing room. The other mill is 100 by 50, two stories high, with engine and boiler room, dye house and dry room. These mills make tickings, chevots and Kentucky jeans. The machinery is driven by a 90, a 40 and a 12 horse power engine, and comprises 150 looms, 5,500 cotton spindles, 1,000 wolen spindles, 18 cotton and 2 sets of wolen cards, 5 tubular boilers are used in the generation of steam. All the dying and finishing is done upon the premises. 8,000 pounds of raw material are consumed every week, producing 30,000 yards of manufactured goods. 35 are men, 60 women, 35 girls and 30 boys are employed, and the monthly pay \$3,000. Robert Wilson is Superintendent.

#### *Chester Rolling Mills.*

The Chester Rolling Mills, manufacturers of steel plate, boiler plate, tank iron, boat plate, steel ingots and pig iron, were established at Front street between Wilson and Hayes, South Chester, in 1874, by the Chester Rolling Mill's Company. John Roach, President; C. B. Houston, Treasurer; D. F. Houston, Secretary, and T. J. Houston, General Manager. The main building is 320 by 185 feet. The steel works, 140 by 96. The different buildings connected with the blast furnace cover about one acre. The combined engine power is 6,000 horse and they have the most complete set of machinery and implements for their business in the country. They employ 575 men and 25 boys, at weekly wages of \$6,000. They use 1,000 tons of ore, 735 tons of fuel and 59 tons of limestone in the blast weekly, and the weekly product is 650 tons pig iron, 300 tons steel ingots and 300 tons plate, which, however, does not include other steel production.

#### *Auvergne Mills.*

The "Auvergne Mills" of South Chester, were established in the fall of '68, at the foot of Flower street by N. L. Yarnal. A two story stone structure, 50 by 120 feet, forms the main building, the engine house is 20 by 25, picker house, 32 feet square, the dye house, 65 by 70 feet. 88 looms, 4 sets of wolen cards, 42 by 48, two self-acting mules with 676 spindles each, together with other necessary machinery are used in the manufacture of Kentucky jeans. 26 men and boys and 43 women and girls are employed at monthly wages of \$2,100. 3,700 pounds of cotton and wool are consumed every week in the manufacture of 20,000 yards of cloth.

#### *Chester Pottery.*

In a small two story building, 25 by 35 feet, at Front and Hayes streets, is the Chester Pottery. This was started by George F. Trapnell, in 1873, and 4 men and a boy are employed at wages of \$50 per week. About 150 tons of clay are annually used.

#### *Oil Cloth Works.*

The Oil Cloth Works of F. S. Worrell were started during the summer of 1882, in the frame buildings formerly occupied by Eli D. Pierce as a morocco tannery, at the foot of Tilghman street. The works comprise four frame buildings and are well stocked with the most improved machinery. Oliver C. Washburn superintends the works. 5,000 yards of manufactured goods are produced weekly, employing 30 men.

#### *Robinson's Brickyard.*

Robinson's Brickyard, 6th and Engle streets, was established by James Caven. The property passed into the hands of Amos Davis, who still owns it. Charles Fairlamb and Fairlamb & Robinson have since conducted the business. In 1876 Mr. Robinson took entire charge. 3,000,000 bricks are turned out annually, giving steady employment to 40 hands and 6 horses and carts, and \$400 per week is the pay roll.

#### *Palmer's Brickyard.*

The Brickyard on Third street, north of West, was established, in 1865, by Mrs. M. Palmer. It comprises 2 kilns with a capacity of 100,000 bricks each. The yard covers 6 acres. Press, hand and salmon bricks are manufactured, and 12 men and 2 boys are employed at a weekly wage of \$150. 40,000 bricks per week are turned out. Thomas



Palmer is Superintendent. The owners of this enterprise are lineal descendants of William Penn.

#### *South Chester Shipyard.*

The Shipyard of Joseph K. Clouser, at the foot of Lamokin street, is used entirely for repair work. The works are fitted with all the modern appliances for repairing wooden vessels. Employment is here given to 15 men at a weekly pay of \$150.

#### *Wyoming Mills.*

The Wyoming Mills, at Third and Booth streets, is operated by Joseph Byram, Jr., in manufacturing cotton yarn. The mill has 56 looms, 1,000 spindles and two sets of cards, driven by a 60 horse power engine, and turns out 15,000 yards per week. 3,000 pounds of cotton is weekly made into 26,000 pounds of cotton yarn. James Byram, Sr., is Superintendent.

#### *Garfield Mills.*

The Garfield Mills, situated at the corner of Morton streets and P. W. & B. R. R., were built by Messrs. Law & Devenney during 1881. The building is a two story brick, 201 by 50 feet. 28,000 pounds of cotton yarn is manufactured every week. 1,500 spindles and 8 sets of cards comprised the machinery up to within a short time—now the capacity is being doubled by the duplication of their machinery. An 80 horse power engine furnishes the motive power. 4 men, 3 women, 6 girls and 3 boys are employed, at a weekly pay of \$160. William Whittaker is Superintendent.

#### *Law & Devenney's Brickyard,*

Law & Devenney's Brickyard comprises an eight acre tract on Morton street and P. W. & B. R. R. 3 large kilns, of Philadelphia pattern, daily produce 23,000 bricks. 45 men are employed at \$40 weekly wages.

#### *South Chester Kindling Works.*

The Kindling Wood establishment of S. P. Stephenson, was started 4 years ago, at the foot of Lamokin street. 4 men are employed on a weekly wage of \$60. One thousand cords of oak and pine wood is annually consumed.

## *MARCUS HOOK.*

#### *Riverview Hosiery Mills.*

The Riverview Hosiery Mills, at Marcus Hook, were established September 1, 1877, by Clarence Larkin and John G. Campbell, but in October of the same year Mr. Campbell withdrew, and with the exception of a period of 8 months, from August 1, 1879, to April 1, 1880, when the business was carried on under the title of the "Clarence Larkin Manufacturing Co., Limited," it has been conducted by Mr. Larkin. The main building is of brick, three stories high, 80 by 33 feet; a brick wing, 18 by 23 feet, three stories high, and an engine room, 20 by 33 feet, one story high. Cotton yarns, gentlemen's half hose, and ladies' and misses' fancy hosiery, are manufactured from cotton yarns. A 40 horse power Corliss' engine and 50 horse power boiler are used. The machinery consists of 7 winding frames, 3 round frame of 6 heads each, 2 four-feeder balmoral frames of 4 heads each, 4 twelve-feeder balmoral frames of 4 heads each, 2 eight-feeder balmoral frames of 4 heads each, 14 rib-tops frames, 4 heeling frames, 4 over-seaming machines, one cutting machine, 12 Wilcox & Gibbs sewing machines, 3 Wilcox & Gibbs trimming machines, one wetting machine, 2 pressing machines and one finishing machine, invented and built by Mr. Larkin himself and which takes the place of an hydraulic press. 8 men, 20 women, 36 girls and 11 boys are employed, and the weekly wages are \$350. 12,000 pounds of yarn is used a month, and the average weekly production is at present 2,000 dozen pairs, which are banded, or put up in paper boxes, nicely labeled, and these packed in 10 dozen cases.

## *NETHER PROVIDENCE.*

#### *The Rose Valley Mills.*

This business was first established by Antrim Osborne, at Waterville, in 1846, and subsequently removed to Nether Providence. The firm is A. Osborne & Sons. The main mill is 150 by 55 feet, three stories; No. 2 mill, 50 by 24 feet, three stories; picker





room, 50 by 40 feet, two stories; engine house, 30 by 20 feet; dye house, 60 by 50 feet, with a separate office. These buildings are of stone from the quarry of the firm. They also own the property across the road, a building 60 by 40 feet, formerly a bobinet mill, but now used as a machine shop. They manufacture cassimeres and jeans, all wool. The machinery comprises 100 looms, 7 300 spindles, 5 sets of cards, one Corliss engine of 65 horse power with 2 sets of boilers. There is also a good water power. 50 men, 40 girls and 35 boys are employed, and the wages averages \$2,800 per month. About \$300,000 worth of raw material is used during the year, with an annual production of \$340,000 worth of manufactured goods.

## CROZERVILLE.

### *The Crozerville Mill*

This industry was established by the late John P. Crozer in 1859. It was conducted by him up to the time of his death, in 1866. Samuel A. Crozer then took charge of the mills and at the end of one year associated with himself Samuel C. Lewis, under the firm name of Crozer & Lewis. In 1875 the firm dissolved, S. C. Lewis withdrawing, and Samuel A. Crozer continued the business until 1881, when he rented the mill to the present proprietor, W. H. H. Robinson. The main building is 100 by 50 feet, four stories high; one store house, one engine house and one waste house. All are of stone. They manufacture cotton yarn. There are 5,000 spinning spindles, 12 cards, one engine and 2 boilers, with water power. 14 men, 6 women, 29 girls and 16 boys are employed, at an average wage of \$1,500 per month. 39,000 pounds of material are used monthly, with a weekly production of 5,000 pounds of cotton yarns. J. U. Scott is Superintendent.

## DARBY.

### *Verlenden Bro.'s Mills.*

This industry was established at Darby by John Verlenden, in 1851. In 1880 the mill was destroyed by fire, but at once re-built. The business is conducted under the firm name of Verlenden Bros. The main mill is 8 by 40 feet. The engine house, picker room, dye house and drying house form separate buildings. They manufacture cotton and woolen goods. The machinery consists of 61 looms, 2 self-acting mules, each 508 spindles; 2 sets of 60 cards, driven by one 16 by 42 Corliss engine, with two sets of boilers. 15 men, 10 women, 9 girls and 15 boys are employed, at a weekly pay of \$350. The amount of raw material used per week is 3,600 pounds and the production for the same time 14,800 yards of manufactured goods.

## FERNWOOD.

### *Union Mills.*

Established in Darby Borough, in the year 1867, by William Hall & Co., they were removed to Fernwood in 1870, and are still controlled by the same firm. The buildings have 24,000 square feet of floor room, in which the carding room, picker room, dye house, scour house and drying room are included. The business is the manufacture of shoddies, waste wool scouring, dyeing, &c. There are 21 cards, and 2 engines of 160 horse power, with 6 boilers. 45 men are employed and the pay averages \$700 per month. The amount of material used when the mills are running at full capacity, is 60,000 pounds a week. John H. Hall is Superintendent.



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